

Psalms 46:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

Analysis

The bold declaration: 'Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.' The most stable elements of creation--earth and mountains--are imagined shaking and dissolving. Yet because God is our refuge, even cosmic upheaval cannot produce fear.

Historical Context

Earthquakes were known in ancient Palestine, making this imagery concrete rather than merely poetic. Mountains 'carried into the sea' represents the most extreme imaginable catastrophe--creation itself coming undone.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What circumstances in your life feel like 'mountains carried into the sea'?
2. How does God as refuge transform our response to the most extreme fears?

Interlinear Text

לֹא־כֵן־עַל

H5921

H3651

H3808

נִירָא

H3372

בְּפִמְעָרָה

H4171

אֵצֶן

H776

Therefore will not we fear be removed though the earth

וְנִסְתַּר

H4131

בְּרֵימָה

H2022

בְּלֹבֶן

H3820

יָמִים:

H3220

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 23:4 (Parallel theme): Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Hebrews 13:6 (Parallel theme): So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Psalms 27:3 (Parallel theme): Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

Matthew 21:21 (Parallel theme): Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

Luke 21:33 (Parallel theme): Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Psalms 82:5 (Parallel theme): They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

Psalms 18:7 (Parallel theme): Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.