

Psalms 46:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

Analysis

Nations rage (hamah, the same word for roaring waters in v.3), kingdoms are moved--the political world shares creation's chaos. Yet 'he uttered his voice, the earth melted.' God's mere word dissolves all opposition. The voice that creates can also unmake; the voice that judges can also save.

Historical Context

The nations' raging against Zion echoes specific historical threats (Assyria, Babylon) and also represents the perpetual hostility of human powers against God's purposes.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's voice bring order to the chaos of nations?
2. What comfort comes from knowing God can 'melt' all earthly opposition with His word?

Interlinear Text

הָמָּוֹה	גּוֹיִם	נִמְּטוּ	מַמְלָכוֹת	נִתְּן	בְּקוֹלֹו	תָּמַד
raged	The heathen	were moved	the kingdoms	he uttered	his voice	melted
H1993	H1471	H4131	H4467	H5414	H6963	H4127
אֶרֶץ:						
the earth						
H776						

Additional Cross-References

Amos 9:5 (Parallel theme): And the Lord GOD of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.

Psalms 18:13 (Parallel theme): The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail stones and coals of fire.

Nahum 1:5 (Parallel theme): The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

Joel 2:11 (Parallel theme): And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Micah 1:4 (Parallel theme): And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.