

Psalms 49:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world:

Analysis

The summons: 'Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world.' The scope is universal--not just Israel but 'all inhabitants of the world.' The wisdom offered transcends national boundaries because it addresses universal human concerns: mortality, wealth, and ultimate destiny.

Historical Context

Wisdom psalms addressed universal human experience, not just Israelite covenant concerns. This broad audience indicates the psalm's application to all humanity regardless of nation or status.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. Why does this wisdom address 'all inhabitants of the world' rather than just Israel?
2. What universal human concerns does the psalm prepare to address?

Interlinear Text

שְׁמַע־זֶה אֵת כָּל־עַם יִמְעַד כָּל־בָּהֶן יְנַחֲשָׁה כָּל־שָׁבֵן
Hear H2063 H3605 this all ye people give ear H3605 all ye inhabitants
H8085 H5971 H238 H3427

:תַּלְמַד

of the world

H2465

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 78:1 (Parallel theme): Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

Revelation 2:17 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Revelation 2:7 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Isaiah 49:6 (Parallel theme): And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

Psalms 34:11 (Parallel theme): Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Psalms 33:8 (Parallel theme): Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

Romans 3:29 (Parallel theme): Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

Romans 10:18 (Parallel theme): But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Matthew 11:15 (Parallel theme): He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Revelation 2:29 (Parallel theme): He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

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