

Psalms 50:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Analysis

Zion as source of revelation: 'Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.' The 'perfection of beauty' describes Jerusalem as God's dwelling, from which His glory radiates. Divine 'shining' recalls Sinai's theophany and anticipates ultimate glory when God dwells with His people.

Historical Context

Zion theology emphasized Jerusalem as the place of God's special presence. 'Shining forth' indicates visible manifestation of divine glory, terrifying to enemies, comforting to the faithful.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Why is Zion called 'the perfection of beauty'?
2. How does God 'shine' from His dwelling place?

Interlinear Text

מִצִּיּוֹן	מִכְלָל	יְפִי	אֱלֹהֵי יִם	הוֹפִיעַ:
Out of Zion	the perfection	of beauty	God	hath shined
H6726	H4359	H3308	H430	H3313

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 48:2 (Parallel theme): Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Psalms 80:1 (Parallel theme): Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth.

Revelation 21:23 (References God): And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Revelation 1:16 (Parallel theme): And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Deuteronomy 33:2 (Parallel theme): And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

Isaiah 12:6 (Parallel theme): Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

Psalms 94:1 (References God): O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.

Habakkuk 2:20 (Parallel theme): But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

Hosea 5:15 (Parallel theme): I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

Lamentations 2:15 (Parallel theme): All that pass by clap their hands at thee; they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying, Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?

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