

Psalm 57:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be above all the earth.

Analysis

The refrain 'Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens' shifts focus from David's plight to God's glory. This doxological interruption demonstrates proper theology—God's glory as ultimate reality transcending circumstances. 'Let thy glory be above all the earth' is both prayer and prophetic vision of eschatological consummation when every knee bows (Philippians 2:10-11).

Historical Context

This verse functions as the psalm's center, structurally and theologically. Davidic psalms characteristically move from lament to praise, with the turning point marked by doxology focusing on God's transcendent worthiness regardless of circumstances.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does focusing on God's exaltation transform your perspective in trials?

2. What practical difference does it make that God's glory transcends your circumstances?

Interlinear Text

ר וּמָה	עַל	הַשְׁמָם יִם	כָּל עַל אֱלֹהִים
Be thou exalted	above the heavens	O God	
H7311	H8064	H430	H3605
		כְּבָדֶךָ	
be above all the earth		let thy glory	
H776		H3519	

Additional Cross-References

Habakkuk 2:14 (Glory): For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 6:3 (Glory): And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Psalms 72:19 (Glory): And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Numbers 14:21 (Glory): But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

Psalms 57:11 (Glory): Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.

Habakkuk 3:3 (Glory): God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.

Psalms 148:13 (Glory): Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.

Psalms 8:1 (Glory): O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

Isaiah 2:11 (Parallel theme): The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

Isaiah 37:20 (References God): Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

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