

Psalm 63:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

Analysis

David's seeing God 'in the sanctuary' connects thirst (v. 1) to worship. The desire to behold God's 'power and glory' indicates that true worship seeks God Himself, not merely blessings. This anticipates Christ's teaching that true worshipers worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24), where seeing God's glory becomes the soul's ultimate satisfaction.

Historical Context

The superscription places this in the wilderness of Judah, likely during Absalom's rebellion when David lacked access to the tabernacle. His longing for the sanctuary demonstrates that exile from formal worship intensifies spiritual hunger.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does physical absence from corporate worship intensify spiritual longing?
2. What does it mean to 'see' God's power and glory in worship?

Interlinear Text

וְכָבֹדְךָ: אַתָּה זֶבַח בְּקָרְבָּן מִזְבֵּחַ בְּנֵי כָּל־עַמִּים
H3651 thee in the sanctuary H6944 so as I have seen H2372 To see H7200 thy power H5797 and thy glory H3519

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 27:4 (Temple): One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Psalms 105:4 (Parallel theme): Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

Psalms 96:6 (Temple): Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

1 Chronicles 16:11 (Parallel theme): Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

Psalms 145:11 (Glory): They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;

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