

Psalm 68:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor.

Analysis

God's 'congregation' (assembly of Israel) dwelt in the land He provided. 'Thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor' emphasizes divine initiative—God's provision flows from His character, not human merit. The word 'poor' (ani) often means afflicted or humble, referring to Israel's status in Egypt and the wilderness. God's goodness to the poor reveals His gracious election—He chose Israel not for their greatness but to demonstrate His love (Deuteronomy 7:7-8).

Historical Context

Israel began as enslaved foreigners with no homeland, repeatedly described as insignificant among nations. God's choice and provision highlighted that salvation rests on grace alone, foreshadowing justification by faith in the New Covenant.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does understanding that you're spiritually 'poor' affect your appreciation of God's grace?

2. What has God 'prepared of his goodness' for you that you did nothing to deserve or earn?
3. In what ways does God's preferential option for the poor challenge worldly values of status and achievement?

Interlinear Text

תְּנַצֵּחַ	בְּתוּבָתֶךָ
Thy congregation	for the poor
H2416	H6041

יָשַׁבָּה	בְּהַלְלָה
hath dwelt	of thy goodness
H3427	H2896

בְּלֹא־הַיּוֹם	לֹא־תִּשְׁכַּח
therein thou O God	forget not
H430	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 74:19 (Parallel theme): O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever.

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