

Psalm 68:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Why leap ye, ye high hills? this is the hill which God desireth to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell in it for ever.

Analysis

Bashan's heights 'leap' with envy at Zion, the hill God chose for His dwelling. Despite Zion's modest elevation, God's selection makes it supremely significant. 'The Lord will dwell in it for ever' promises eternal presence—fulfilled ultimately in the New Jerusalem where God dwells with His people perpetually (Revelation 21:3). Divine choice, not human merit or natural advantage, determines worth and destiny.

Historical Context

Mount Zion, Jerusalem's site, was strategically located but not particularly impressive physically. Yet God chose it for His temple, making it the center of His covenant people's worship and identity.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's election of the unlikely or insignificant challenge worldly criteria for value?

2. What does it mean that God chooses to dwell with His people 'forever'?
3. In what ways are you tempted to judge worth by external impressiveness rather than God's choice?

Interlinear Text

לְמַה	יְמִינֵךְ	תִּמְצָא	בְּרֵגֶת	בְּרֵגֶת	בְּרֵגֶת
H4100	Why	leap	H2022	hills	H1386
H7520					
אֱלֹהִים	יְמִינֵךְ	תִּמְצָא	בְּרֵגֶת	בְּרֵגֶת	בְּרֵגֶת
H430	which	God			

לְשִׁבְתָּהּ	יְשִׁיבָה	אֵת	הִנֵּה	יְשִׁיבָה	לְנִצְחָה
H3427	to	dwell	in	H637	yea
H3068					
הָרָבָה	the	LORD	will	dwell	in
H7931					
H5331					

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 12:5 (References God): But unto the place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come:

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