

Psalms 75:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

Analysis

The psalm teaches: "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south" (Hebrew *ki lo mi-motza u-mi-ma-arav v-lo mid-bar harim*). The three directions (excluding north where God's throne is, v.6) represent all earthly sources. "Promotion" (Hebrew *harim*, literally "lifting up") doesn't come from human sources—geography, politics, or effort. The verse demolishes self-advancement, establishing that elevation comes solely from God. This humbles pride and encourages trust.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern empires arose from various directions—Egypt (south), Assyria/Babylon (east/north), Greece/Rome (west). Yet none ultimately controlled human destiny; God sovereignly raised and lowered nations (Daniel 2:21). Joseph's elevation from prison to palace exemplified divine promotion despite circumstances (Genesis 41). Jesus taught that exaltation comes through humility (Luke 14:11, 18:14).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing that promotion comes from God alone change your approach to ambition and career?
2. What worldly strategies for advancement (networking, self-promotion, manipulation) does this verse challenge?
3. How did Christ's path to exaltation through humiliation and cross (Philippians 2:9-11) exemplify this principle?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יְמוּצָא	וּמִמַּעַרְב	לֹא
<small>H3588</small>	<small>H3808</small>	<small>H4161</small>	<small>H3808</small>
	cometh neither from the east	nor from the west	
		<small>H4628</small>	
מִמִּדְבָּר	הִרְיָם:		
<small>H4057</small>	<small>H7311</small>		
nor from the south	For promotion		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 3:3 (Parallel theme): But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.