

Psalms 76:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.

Analysis

The psalm commands worship: "Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared" (Hebrew *nidru u-shalemu la-YHWH Eloheykem kol-s-vivav yovilu shay la-mora*). "Vow and pay" indicates covenant commitment with followthrough. "All round about" extends worship beyond Israel. "Presents" (Hebrew *shay*) are tribute acknowledging sovereignty. "Ought to be feared" establishes worship in God's character. The verse calls universal submission to God revealed in Zion.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern vassal kings brought tribute to suzerains. This psalm envisions nations bringing tribute to God. Isaiah 18:7, 60:5-7, and Zephaniah 3:10 prophesy this. The magi bringing gifts to infant Jesus (Matthew 2:11) prefigured it. Revelation 21:24-26 depicts nations bringing glory and honor into New Jerusalem—ultimate fulfillment.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What "vows" have you made to God that require "paying" (fulfilling)?
2. How does bringing "presents" to God express worship beyond verbal praise?
3. In what ways does Christ's universal lordship (Philippians 2:10-11) fulfill this vision of all nations worshipping?

Interlinear Text

וְנָדַר	וְשָׁלַמְתָּ	לַיהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	כָּל	סְבִיבָיו
Vow	and pay	unto the LORD	your God	H3605	let all that be round about
H5087	H7999	H3068	H430		H5439
יְבִיאוּ	שָׁמָּה	לְמוֹכָא:			
him bring	presents	unto him that ought to be feared			
H2986	H7862	H4172			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 50:14 (References God): Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

Psalms 68:29 (Parallel theme): Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.

Psalms 89:7 (References God): God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

Genesis 31:42 (References God): Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked thee yesternight.