

Psalm 86:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

Analysis

For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone. This doxological conclusion grounds the previous verse's prophetic vision in God's nature. **Thou art great** (gadol attah, גָּדוֹל אַתָּה) affirms incomparable magnitude—not merely large but infinitely surpassing all created things. Divine greatness encompasses power, wisdom, holiness, and all perfections existing without limit.

The phrase **doest wondrous things** (oseh nifla'ot, עֹשֶׂה נִפְلָאֹת) references miraculous works—acts that inspire awe, transcending natural explanation. These nifla'ot include creation, exodus deliverance, provision in wilderness, victories over enemies, and ultimately the incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ—the supreme wonder of God's redemptive work.

The climactic declaration **thou art God alone** (attah Elohim levadekha, אַתָּה אֱלֹהִים לְבָדָךְ) asserts absolute monotheism—no other being shares deity with Yahweh. This exclusivity grounds missionary urgency: if God alone is truly God, all peoples must acknowledge Him. The New Testament maintains this monotheism while revealing God's triune nature—Father, Son, and Spirit as one God performing wondrous redemption.

Historical Context

This affirmation echoes Moses's declaration after the Red Sea crossing: "Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?" (Exodus 15:11) and anticipates Isaiah's

prophetic emphasis on God's exclusive deity during the exile (Isaiah 43:10-11, 44:6, 45:5-6). The early church's proclamation of Jesus as Lord confronted Roman polytheism with this radical monotheism, insisting Christ's deity didn't compromise but revealed the one true God's nature.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'wondrous things' has God done in your life that testify to His greatness and uniqueness?
2. How does confessing 'thou art God alone' challenge idolatrous devotion to created things or human institutions?
3. How can you maintain biblical monotheism while explaining the Trinity to those unfamiliar with Christian theology?

Interlinear Text

אַתָּה	נַפְלָא	וְתִ	עִשָּׂה	הִ	אַתָּה	גָּד	וְלָ	כִּי
H3588	For thou art great	H859	and doest	H6213	wondrous things	H6381		H859
	H1419							
תְּבִדְבָּרְךָ	אֱלֹהָיָם							
thou art God	H905							
	H430							

Additional Cross-References

Mark 12:29 (References God): And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

Isaiah 37:16 (References God): O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

Psalms 72:18 (References God): Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

1 Corinthians 8:4 (References God): As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.

Exodus 15:11 (References God): Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

Deuteronomy 32:39 (References God): See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

Isaiah 37:20 (References God): Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

Ephesians 4:6 (References God): One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Acts 4:30 (Parallel theme): By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Psalms 86:8 (References God): Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord; neither are there any works like unto thy works.