

Psalm 89:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.

Analysis

Thou hast a mighty arm (גִּבֹּר זָרַעַב)—Gibbor (mighty, warrior, hero) describes God's zeroa (arm), symbolizing His power to act in history. **Strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand** (תָּאֹז יָדְךָ תָּרֻם יָמִינְךָ)—Ta'oz (strong, prevails) characterizes the yad (hand), while the yamin (right hand) is tarum (lifted high, exalted). The right hand signifies honor, favor, and saving power.

God's 'mighty arm' is a recurring Exodus motif (Exodus 6:6, 15:16, Deuteronomy 5:15)—the same arm that brought Israel out of Egypt would establish David's throne and ultimately accomplish salvation through Christ. Isaiah 53:1 asks 'to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?'—answered in Jesus, God's mighty arm made flesh. The 'right hand' becomes Jesus's position of authority (Psalm 110:1, Acts 2:33), from which He rules and intercedes.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern victory stelae often depicted kings with raised arms symbolizing conquest. Israel subverted this—not the king's arm but Yahweh's arm wins battles. David's victories were attributed to God's might, preparing for the Messiah who would conquer not by human strength but by divine power.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Where do you need to see God's 'mighty arm' at work in circumstances that seem immovable?
2. How does Jesus as God's 'right hand' exalted change your understanding of who has ultimate authority in your life?
3. In what ways are you tempted to rely on your own 'arm' (strength, resources, strategies) rather than God's?

Interlinear Text

תְּרִים יְמִינְךָ לְגֻּבּוֹת הַגְּבֹרֶת תְּמִימָה יְמִינְךָ
H0 arm H5973 Thou hast a mighty H1369 strong H5810 is thy hand H3027 and high H7311

ימינך:

is thy right hand

H3225

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