

Psalm 9:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

Analysis

This verse expresses complete joy and devotion to God. 'Be glad' (Hebrew 'samach') and 'rejoice' (Hebrew 'gil') are near synonyms emphasizing wholehearted delight. 'In thee' shows the proper object of joy - not circumstances but God Himself. 'Sing praise to thy name' connects worship to God's revealed character (His name). 'Most High' (Hebrew 'Elyon') emphasizes God's sovereignty and supremacy. This verse models theocentric joy - finding ultimate satisfaction in God's character and presence rather than gifts or circumstances.

Historical Context

This acrostic psalm celebrates God's victory over enemies. The title suggests it may relate to a specific deliverance. The emphasis on God's name and supremacy reflects Israel's monotheistic worship distinguishing them from polytheistic neighbors. Praising God's name meant celebrating His covenant character and faithfulness.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. Is your joy primarily rooted in God Himself or in His blessings?
2. How does praise of God's name (character) differ from generic expressions of thanks?

Interlinear Text

שָׁמַךְ הָאָשָׁמָךְ הַבָּבָר אֶלְעָלָץ הַבָּבָר אֶלְעָלָץ הַבָּבָר
I will be glad and rejoice in thee I will sing praise to thy name
H8055 H5970 H2167 H8034

אֱלֹהִים

O thou most High

H5945

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 83:18 (Parallel theme): That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

Psalms 5:11 (Parallel theme): But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Psalms 97:9 (Parallel theme): For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

Psalms 28:7 (Resurrection): The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Psalms 7:17 (Resurrection): I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

Psalms 92:1 (Resurrection): It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:

Psalms 97:12 (Parallel theme): Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Philippians 4:4 (Parallel theme): Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

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