

Psalms 9:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.

Analysis

But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. After describing the destruction of Israel's enemies (verses 5-6), David now contrasts the permanence of God with the transience of human powers. While nations rage and enemies threaten, Yahweh remains eternally unchanged and unchangeable.

"The LORD shall endure for ever" (vaYahweh le'olam yeshev, וַיַּהֲבֹה לְעוֹלָם יָשַׁב) literally reads "but Yahweh forever sits" or "remains." The verb yashav means to sit, dwell, remain, or be enthroned. The contrast is striking: enemies are destroyed and forgotten (verse 6), their very names blotted out, but God sits eternally unmoved. Le'olam (forever, perpetually, eternally) emphasizes God's existence beyond time—He was before all things and will be after all things.

"He hath prepared his throne for judgment" (konein lamishpat kis'o, כָּנֵן לְמִשְׁפָּט) reveals the purpose of God's eternal reign. Kun means to establish firmly, set up, prepare. God's throne is not provisional or temporary but eternally established. Mishpat (judgment, justice, verdict) indicates that God's throne exists for the purpose of executing justice. He does not reign arbitrarily but righteously, judging all according to truth.

This verse provides theological foundation for confidence in God's ultimate justice. Present circumstances may seem unjust, but God's throne is established for

judgment. Human kingdoms rise and fall; God's kingdom endures forever. This eternal perspective transforms how believers face persecution and injustice.

Historical Context

The concept of God's eternal throne was central to Israel's theology, especially as a counterpoint to surrounding nations' claims of divine kingship for their rulers. While ancient Near Eastern kings built thrones and declared themselves gods, Israel confessed that the true God alone reigns eternally. Human thrones crumble; God's throne is eternal.

The imagery of God's throne prepared for judgment appears throughout Scripture. Psalm 89:14 declares: "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne." Isaiah saw the LORD "sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up" (Isaiah 6:1). Daniel witnessed "thrones placed" and "the Ancient of days" sitting in judgment (Daniel 7:9-10). Revelation depicts the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:11-15).

For David, this theological truth was personally relevant. Saul's throne seemed secure, yet David knew God had established his own throne. When enemies threatened, when injustice prevailed, David anchored his hope in God's eternal throne established for justice. This same hope sustained Israel through exile and oppression—temporary powers might dominate, but God's righteous reign endures forever.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternal endurance contrast with the temporary nature of human powers and kingdoms?
2. What comfort does the truth that God's throne is 'prepared for judgment' provide when facing injustice?
3. How should the eternal perspective of this verse shape believers' response to temporal setbacks and opposition?
4. What does it mean that God's throne is not merely for display but specifically for executing judgment?

Interlinear Text

בָּאָה :	לְמִשְׁפָּט	ע	כִּי	יְשִׁיא	בְּ	לְעוֹלָם	מִ	יְהִי	תְּ
But the LORD	for ever		shall endure	he hath prepared		for judgment		his throne	
H3068	H5769		H3427			H3559		H4941	H3678

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 20:11 (Parallel theme): And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.