

Psalm 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

Analysis

In contrast to enemies' destruction, 'the LORD shall endure for ever.' The Hebrew 'yashab' (shall endure/sit) suggests permanent enthronement. God has 'prepared his throne for judgment' - His judicial authority is established and permanent. He judges with 'righteousness' and 'uprightness,' ensuring perfect justice. This verse provides comfort: human kingdoms rise and fall, but God's kingdom is eternal. His judgment will always be right. Christ sits on this throne (Matthew 25:31), ensuring righteous judgment.

Historical Context

This contrasts God's eternal throne with temporary earthly kingdoms. Israel repeatedly saw empires rise and fall - Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia. Yet Yahweh's throne remained. The prepared throne emphasizes certainty - judgment is not hypothetical but assured. Christians await Christ's return to judge the living and dead from this eternal throne.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternal endurance comfort you when facing temporary troubles?
2. What confidence does God's prepared throne of judgment give you about history's outcome?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה	וְשִׁפְטָה	תִּבְנֶה	בְּאָדָם	יְמִינָה
H1931	And he shall judge	the world	in righteousness	he shall minister judgment
	H8199	H8398	H6664	H1777
בְּמִשְׁרִים:				לֹאַמְתִּימָן
to the people				in uprightness
H3816		H4339		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 96:13 (Righteousness): Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Psalms 98:9 (Righteousness): Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

Acts 17:31 (Righteousness): Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Romans 2:16 (Judgment): In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Genesis 18:25 (Righteousness): That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

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