

Psalms 91:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

Analysis

Because he hath set his love upon me (כִּי בִי חֶשֶׁק)—The Hebrew chashaq describes passionate attachment, clinging devotion. This is God's response to the believer's love, making Psalm 91 a divine covenant promise. **Therefore will I deliver him**—deliverance conditioned on love, yet God initiates: 'We love him because he first loved us' (1 John 4:19).

I will set him on high (אֶשְׁבְּהוּ, asaggbehu)—exaltation beyond earthly enemies' reach, echoing Joseph's elevation (Genesis 41:40) and Christ's resurrection enthronement (Ephesians 1:20-21). **Because he hath known my name** (יָדָא שְׁמִי, yada shemi)—intimate covenant knowledge, not mere cognition. The Name represents God's character, presence, and self-revelation—knowing equals loving communion.

Historical Context

Psalm 91 is anonymous but traditionally associated with Moses or the Levitical temple liturgy. The divine first-person voice (rare in Psalms) suggests prophetic oracle. Early Jewish interpretation saw Messianic fulfillment; Satan quoted verses 11-12 during Christ's temptation (Matthew 4:6), while Jesus embodied the psalm's ultimate 'keeper of the covenant' who trusted utterly in God's name.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does your love for God move beyond duty to the passionate 'clinging' (chashaq) described here?
2. What does it mean to 'know God's name' in a culture where names are casual labels rather than revelations of character?

Interlinear Text

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| כִּי | בִּי | וְשָׂקָה | וְאֶפְלֹא הוּא |
| H3588 | H0 | H2836 | H6403 |
| | | Because he hath set his love | upon me therefore will I deliver |
| הוּא | אֶשְׂבֵּה הוּא | כִּי | יָדָע וְשְׁמִי |
| H7682 | H3588 | H3045 | H8034 |
| him I will set him on high | because he hath known | my name | |

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 9:10 (Parallel theme): And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

John 14:23 (Love): Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

James 1:12 (Love): Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

John 16:27 (Love): For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

Romans 8:28 (Love): And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

James 2:5 (Love): Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Isaiah 33:16 (Parallel theme): He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

Psalms 91:9 (Parallel theme): Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

Galatians 4:9 (Parallel theme): But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

John 17:3 (Parallel theme): And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.