

Psalms 92:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.

Analysis

The contrast between the senseless (ba'ar—brutish, like cattle) man and deep thoughts (makhshavot—purposes/plans) of God highlights the spiritual blindness that prevents seeing divine wisdom in creation. This is not mere intellectual limitation but willful ignorance. The 'fool' (kesil) lacks spiritual discernment, unable to perceive God's hand in the world. This aligns with Paul's teaching in Romans 1:20 about inexcusable rejection of natural revelation.

Historical Context

Ancient Israel was surrounded by nature worship that saw power in creation but missed the Creator. The psalmist confronts such shallow thinking.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What prevents people today from recognizing God's wisdom displayed in creation?
2. How can you cultivate spiritual discernment to perceive God's 'deep thoughts' in everyday circumstances?

Interlinear Text

אֲנָתִים יְבִין לֹא בְּעָרָה אִישׁ
man A brutish H3808 knoweth not neither doth a fool H3808 understand H853
H376 H1198 H3045 H3684 H995

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H2063

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 73:22 (Parallel theme): So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee.

Psalms 94:8 (Parallel theme): Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?

Psalms 49:10 (Parallel theme): For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.

Proverbs 1:22 (Parallel theme): How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

Jeremiah 10:14 (Parallel theme): Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (Parallel theme): But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Isaiah 1:3 (Parallel theme): The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

Psalms 14:1 (Parallel theme): The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

Psalms 32:9 (Parallel theme): Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

Proverbs 30:2 (Parallel theme): Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.

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