

Psalm 94:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

Analysis

Addressing God as 'Judge of the earth' (shofet ha'arets) appeals to His universal jurisdiction and authority. The request to 'lift up thyself' (hinase) uses imagery of a judge rising to pronounce sentence. 'Render a reward to the proud' (hashev gemul —return recompense) invokes the principle of divine retribution against arrogance. Pride is singled out because it represents fundamental rebellion against God's rightful authority. This verse establishes God's role as cosmic judge who will definitively address human pride.

Historical Context

Throughout Scripture, pride is identified as the root sin (Isaiah 14:12-15, James 4:6), making it the appropriate target for divine judgment.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. In what ways does pride manifest in your life, and how does awareness of God as Judge address it?

2. How can you maintain humility knowing that God actively opposes the proud?

Interlinear Text

גַּאֲיִם: עַל גַּם מֵאַל פְּשָׁב שְׁפָט בָּאָרֶץ הַנִּשְׁאָר
to the proud a reward render of the earth thou judge thyself lift up

H1343 H5921 H1576 H7725 H776 H8199 H5375

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 7:6 (Judgment): Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me to the judgment that thou hast commanded.

Psalms 31:23 (Parallel theme): O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (Judgment): For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Genesis 18:25 (Judgment): 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?

1 Peter 5:5 (Parallel theme): Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.