

Psalms 99:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.

Analysis

The command to 'exalt the LORD our God' (romemu Yahweh Elohenu) uses covenant language ('our God'), inviting personal relationship with the transcendent King. Worshiping 'at his footstool' refers to the ark of the covenant or the temple, God's earthly dwelling place. The repetition 'for he is holy' (kadosh hu) reinforces the theme of God's holiness as the reason for worship. Bowing at His footstool combines humility (prostration) with intimacy (approaching His presence). True worship acknowledges both God's otherness and His nearness.

Historical Context

The temple's inner courts, where worshipers brought sacrifices, represented the footstool of God's heavenly throne, allowing approach to holy God through prescribed means.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How can you cultivate worship that balances reverent awe at God's holiness with confidence in approaching Him through Christ?
2. What does it mean to 'exalt' God in daily life beyond formal worship times?

Interlinear Text

בְּגֵל יוֹ לְהַדָּם וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ אֵלֵינוּ יְהוָה הוֹמָם ו
Exalt ye the LORD our God and worship H1916 at his footstool
H7311 H3068 H430 H7812

וְשֵׁ קָדֹשׁ הוּא:
for he is holy H1931
H6918

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 132:7 (Worship): We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Psalms 108:5 (References God): Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth;

Isaiah 66:1 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

Exodus 15:2 (References God): The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Isaiah 12:4 (Worship): And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

Isaiah 25:1 (Worship): O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

Psalms 34:3 (References Lord): O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Psalms 99:3 (Holy): Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

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