

Amos 9:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

Analysis

וְשָׁבָתִי אֶת-שְׁבּוֹת עַמִּי (v'shabti et-sh'vut ami Yisrael)—After chapters of unrelenting judgment, Amos concludes with restoration promise. The verb שׁוב (shuv, 'to return, restore') signals covenant renewal. **And they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them** (וְבָנו עָרִים נְשָׁמֹת וְשָׁבּוּ) reversing covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28:30, 39). **And they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them**—full covenant blessing (Deuteronomy 28:4, 11) restored.

This demonstrates covenant faithfulness: God judges sin but doesn't abandon His purposes. James's citation in Acts 15:16-17 applies this to Gentile inclusion—God's restoration exceeds ethnic Israel, encompassing all nations through Christ. The ultimate fulfillment awaits Christ's return, when creation itself is restored (Romans 8:19-23).

Historical Context

While a small remnant returned from Babylonian exile, this prophecy awaits complete fulfillment in the Messianic age. The New Testament interprets it

Christologically—Jesus as the tabernacle of David (John 1:14), gathering both Jews and Gentiles into one people (Ephesians 2:11-22).

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's promise of restoration after judgment demonstrate covenant faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness?
2. In what ways does the New Covenant in Christ fulfill these restoration prophecies beyond merely national Israel?
3. How should future hope of complete restoration motivate present faithfulness and evangelistic urgency?

Interlinear Text

וְשִׁבְתִּי	וְשִׁבְתִּי	אֶת	שִׁבְתִּי	עַמִּי	וְשִׁבְתִּי
And I will bring again		H853	the captivity	of my people	of Israel
H7725			H7622	H5971	H3478
וְבָנֵו	וְבָנֵו	עָרִים	נִשְׁמָוֹת	וְיִשְׁבּוּ	וְיִצְׁלְעָו
and they shall build		cities	the waste	and inhabit	them and they shall plant
H1129		H5892	H8074	H3427	H5193
כִּרְמֵי	כִּרְמֵי	וְשִׁתְתִּי	יְיָנִים	וְעָשֵׂו	גַּתְתִּי
vineyards	and drink	H853	the wine	thereof they shall also make	gardens
H3754	H8354		H3196	H6213	H1593
פְּרִיּוֹם:	אֶת	וְאֶכְלֶוּ			
and eat	H853	the fruit			
H398		H6529			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 61:4 (Parallel theme): And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

Jeremiah 30:3 (References Israel): For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

Jeremiah 30:18 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

Ezekiel 28:26 (Parallel theme): And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell with confidence, when I have executed judgments upon all those that despise them round about them; and they shall know that I am the LORD their God.

Jeremiah 31:28 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 65:21 (Parallel theme): And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

Psalms 53:6 (References Israel): Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

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