

Deuteronomy 11:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

Analysis

God promises 'I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle' ensuring not just human food but livestock fodder. The comprehensive provision—'thou shalt eat and be full'—indicates abundance, not mere subsistence. The Hebrew *saba* (שָׂבַע, 'satisfied, sated') implies complete satisfaction. This reflects God's generous provision for obedient people. However, the warning of verses 16-17 immediately follows, showing that fullness can lead to complacency and apostasy—a theme developed in Deuteronomy 8:10-20.

Historical Context

Livestock (sheep, goats, cattle) were essential to ancient Israelite economy, providing meat, milk, leather, wool, and sacrificial animals. Pasture availability determined herd size and thus wealth. This promise addresses economic prosperity holistically. The danger of prosperity leading to spiritual complacency became Israel's recurring problem (Judges cycle, prophetic critiques of wealthy Judah).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Why does prosperity often lead to spiritual complacency rather than gratitude?
2. How can believers maintain dependence on God during seasons of material abundance?
3. What safeguards can protect against the spiritual dangers of 'eating and being full'?

Interlinear Text

וְנִתַּתִּי	עֵשֶׂב	בְּשָׂדֶךָ	לְבִהֶמְתְּךָ	וְאָכַלְתָּ
And I will send	grass	in thy fields	for thy cattle	that thou mayest eat
H5414	H6212	H7704	H929	H398
וְשָׂבַעְתָּ:				
and be full				
H7646				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 6:11 (Parallel theme): And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;

Psalms 104:14 (Parallel theme): He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

Joel 2:19 (Parallel theme): Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

Joel 2:22 (Parallel theme): Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.

