

Deuteronomy 12:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;

Analysis

The future promise: 'But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell in the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety.' This verse reiterates the sequence: cross Jordan → possess land → receive rest from enemies → dwell securely. The Hebrew *shaqat* (שָׁקַט, 'rest') and *yashab betach* (יָשַׁב בְּטָח, 'dwell in safety') describe military security and domestic peace. Only when external threats cease can worship centralization be fully implemented. The verse implies that proper worship is both result of God's blessing (rest/safety) and means of maintaining it (centralized covenant faithfulness prevents idolatry that brings judgment).

Historical Context

This promise materialized in stages: partial fulfillment under Joshua (Joshua 21:43-45), greater fulfillment under David/Solomon (1 Kings 4:25; 5:4), but complete fulfillment awaits Messianic age. The divided kingdom, Assyrian/Babylonian invasions, and exile demonstrated Israel never achieved permanent rest through disobedience. Zechariah 8:12 promises eschatological safety. New Testament believers have spiritual rest now (Matthew 11:28) and await final rest in new creation (Revelation 21:3-4).

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does external security (rest from enemies) enable proper worship, and how does proper worship maintain security?
2. What spiritual enemies has Christ given believers rest from, and how does this affect worship?
3. How should Christians understand security and safety in a fallen world while awaiting ultimate rest?

Interlinear Text

וְעַבְרֹתֵם	אֶת	הַיַּרְדֵּן	וְיִשְׁבֹּתֶם	בְּאֶרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר
But when ye go over	H853	Jordan	and dwell	in the land	H834
H5674		H3383	H3427	H776	
יְהוָה ה	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	מִנְחָה יִל	אֶתְּכֶם		
which the LORD	your God	giveth you to inherit	H853		
H3068	H430	H5157			
וְהֵן יִח	לְכֶם	מִכָּל	אֹיְבֵיכֶם	מִסָּבִיב	
and when he giveth you rest	H0	H3605	from all your enemies	round about	
H5117			H341	H5439	
וְיִשְׁבֹּתֶם	בְּטָח:				
and dwell	in safety				
H3427	H983				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 33:11 (References Lord): The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD.

Ezekiel 34:28 (Parallel theme): And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.

Deuteronomy 4:22 (Parallel theme): But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.

Deuteronomy 3:27 (Parallel theme): Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

Deuteronomy 11:31 (References God): For ye shall pass over Jordan to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God giveth you, and ye shall possess it, and dwell therein.