

Ezekiel 17:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon an high mountain and eminent:

Analysis

This prophetic reversal introduces messianic hope. God Himself will plant a 'tender twig' from David's line—the Messiah. While Babylon broke Judah's earthly kingdom, God will establish an eternal kingdom through Christ (2 Samuel 7:12-16, Luke 1:32-33). The 'high mountain' is Zion, from which Christ's reign extends worldwide.

Historical Context

Written during exile when David's throne was vacant, this promise sustained hope. The 'tender twig' (Hebrew 'yoneq') suggests vulnerability—Christ came not in political power but humble incarnation, fulfilling prophecy in unexpected ways.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's kingdom differ from worldly kingdoms in its origin, nature, and methods?
2. Where do you see Christ's kingdom growing today from seemingly small and humble beginnings?

Interlinear Text

מִצְטָה רַת אָנָי יַלְקֹעַת חֲתִיא הָאֱלֹהִים אָמַר כְּהֵן
H3541 Thus saith the Lord GOD I will also take H589 of the highest branch
H559 H136 H3069 H3947 H6788

כְּהֵן יַנְקֹעַת חֲתִיא בָּרָם אֲשֶׁר יִנְתַּחַת תְּבִיא מִרְאֵשׁ
cedar of the high and will set from the top of his young twigs a tender one
H730 H7311 H5414 H7218 H3127 H7390

גַּבְבָּה אַקְעֵט רַי שְׁמַת לְתִי עַל אָנָי בָּרָם
it I will crop off and will plant H589 H5921 mountain it upon an high
H6998 H8362 H2022 H1364

וְמִלְאָל:
and eminent
H8524

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 53:2 (Parallel theme): For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

Psalms 2:6 (Parallel theme): Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

Ezekiel 20:40 (References God): For in mine holy mountain, in the mountain of the height of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, there shall all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, serve me: there will I accept them, and there will I require your offerings, and the firstfruits of your oblations, with all your holy things.

Psalms 72:16 (Parallel theme): There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

Zechariah 3:8 (Parallel theme): Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Ezekiel 40:2 (References God): In the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me upon a very high mountain, by which was as the frame of a city on the south.

Micah 4:1 (References Lord): But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.