

Ezekiel 29:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth—After Egypt's judgment, Israel's restoration begins. קֶרֶן (qeren, 'horn') symbolizes strength/power (Psalm 132:17, Luke 1:69). אֲשַׁמֶּיחַ ('ašmîaḥ, 'cause to sprout/grow') pictures renewal after cutting down.

Some interpret this as Messianic prophecy—the 'horn of David' sprouting again. Others see reference to Israel's post-exilic restoration. **And I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them**—Ezekiel's restricted speech (3:26-27, 24:27, 33:22) would be fully opened. פֶּתִיחוֹן-פֶּה (pētiḥôn-peh, 'opening of mouth') suggests freedom to speak all God's words, not just prophetic oracles. **And they shall know that I am the LORD**—Fulfilled prophecy again produces recognition. Ezekiel's restored speech, Israel's renewed strength, and Egypt's judgment would all testify to YHWH's sovereignty.

Historical Context

Israel's 'horn budding' had partial fulfillment in the return from exile (538 BC) and temple rebuilding (516 BC). Fuller realization came through David's greater son, Jesus the Messiah (Luke 1:68-69). Ezekiel's speech was restored when Jerusalem fell (33:22), authenticating his ministry. Each fulfillment demonstrated God's faithfulness to His prophetic word.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the 'budding horn' metaphor connect to Messianic hope?
2. What is the significance of Ezekiel's opened mouth coinciding with Israel's restoration?
3. How do layered fulfillments (near and far) enrich prophetic interpretation?

Interlinear Text

בַּיּוֹם In that day H3117	וְהָיָה H1931	אֶצְמַח יֵם to bud forth H6779	קֶרֶן the horn H7161	לְבַיִת of the house H1004	יִשְׂרָאֵל of Israel H3478	וְלֵב H0
אֶתֵּן and I will give H5414	פֶּתַח thee the opening H6610	פִּי of the mouth H6310	בְּתוֹךְ in the midst H8432			
וְיָדְעוּ of them and they shall know H3045	כִּי H3588	אֲנִי H589	יְהוָה that I am the LORD H3068			

Additional Cross-References

Luke 21:15 (Parallel theme): For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

1 Samuel 2:10 (References Lord): The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

Psalms 132:17 (Parallel theme): There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

Ezekiel 33:22 (References Lord): Now the hand of the LORD was upon me in the evening, afore he that was escaped came; and had opened my mouth, until he came to me in the morning; and my mouth was opened, and I was no more dumb.

Ezekiel 24:27 (References Lord): In that day shall thy mouth be opened to him which is escaped, and thou shalt speak, and be no more dumb: and thou shalt be a sign unto them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Psalms 92:10 (Parallel theme): But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

Luke 1:69 (Parallel theme): And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;