

Ezekiel 34:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

Analysis

"And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country." God promises comprehensive restoration: regathering from exile, return to homeland, abundant provision. The threefold promise emphasizes divine initiative. This had partial fulfillment in post-exilic return but awaits complete fulfillment in Christ's gathering elect from all nations. The Reformed view sees spiritual fulfillment: God gathering His people into the church, feeding them with Word and sacrament, providing eternal security.

Historical Context

The promise (586 BC) addressed exiles mourning dispersion. Cyrus's decree (539 BC) began fulfillment, allowing Jewish return. However, most remained scattered, and even returnees faced hardship. Complete fulfillment came through Christ gathering elect from every nation into spiritual Israel (the church). The physical geography (mountains of Israel, rivers, inhabited places) foreshadows spiritual realities: abundant provision in Christ, security in God's kingdom, eternal fellowship in new creation. What God promised Israel He fulfills expansively in the church.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's promise to gather and feed encourage believers experiencing spiritual exile?
2. What is the relationship between physical restoration promises and spiritual realities in Christ?

Interlinear Text

וְהִזְכִּיר אֶת יִם	מִן	כַּעַם יִם	מִן	וְקִבְצָתִים	מִן	בָּאָרֶץ:
And I will bring them out	H4480	from the people	H5971	and gather	H4480	of the country
	H3318					H776
וְבָיאוּת יִם	אֶל	אֶדְמָתִ מ	אֶל	וְרַעִיתִים	אֶל	
and will bring	H413	them to their own land	H127	and feed	H413	
	H935				H7462	
בְּכָל בָּאָרֶץ יִם	וְשַׁבָּא ל					
them upon the mountains	H2022	of Israel	H3478	by the rivers	H650	H3605
מָוְשֵׁב						
and in all the inhabited places	H4186	of the country	H776			

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 11:17 (References Israel): Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

Psalms 106:47 (Parallel theme): Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praise.

Jeremiah 32:37 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

Amos 9:14 (References Israel): 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.

Ezekiel 36:24 (Parallel theme): For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

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.

Ezekiel 39:27 (Parallel theme): When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;

Ezekiel 20:41 (Parallel theme): I will accept you with your sweet savour, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen.

Jeremiah 23:8 (References Israel): But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

Jeremiah 31:8 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.