

Ezekiel 34:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

Analysis

"And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods." The "covenant of peace" refers to the New Covenant established through Christ's blood (Hebrews 13:20). The imagery of safety from wild beasts represents comprehensive security—physical and spiritual. In fallen creation, danger abounds; in restored creation, peace reigns. This anticipates the new heavens and earth where the wolf dwells with the lamb (Isaiah 11:6-9). Christ's atonement reconciles not just God and humanity but ultimately all creation.

Historical Context

Ancient Israel faced constant threats—wild animals, enemy nations, drought, disease. The wilderness and woods symbolized danger zones requiring avoidance. God promises transformation: places of danger become places of safety. The post-exilic return brought partial fulfillment, but complete fulfillment awaits the new creation. Jesus brought peace with God through His cross (Ephesians 2:14-17), and His return will bring cosmic peace. The covenant of peace ensures ultimate security for God's people—nothing can separate them from His love (Romans 8:38-39).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's covenant of peace address both spiritual and eventual physical restoration?
2. What does safety in dangerous places teach about security in Christ?

Interlinear Text

וְאֶכְרַת	יְהֹם	בְּרִית	וְשָׁלֹום	וְהַשְׁבֵת	מַה
And I will make	H3772	with them a covenant	H1285	of peace	H7965
				to cease	H7673
				beasts	H2416
וְעַבְתָּה	מִן	בְּאָרֶץ	יִשְׁבֶּה	בַּמְדִבָּר	
and will cause the evil	H4480	out of the land	H776	and they shall dwell	H3427
				in the wilderness	H4057
לְבָטֵח		בְּשָׁרִים	וַיִּשְׁן		
safely	H983	and sleep	H3462	in the woods	H3293

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 37:26 (Covenant): Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

Leviticus 26:6 (Peace): And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land.

Isaiah 35:9 (Parallel theme): No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:

Psalms 4:8 (Peace): I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

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.

Hebrews 13:20 (Covenant): Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Job 5:22 (Parallel theme): At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth.

Jeremiah 23:6 (Parallel theme): In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jeremiah 33:16 (Parallel theme): In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

Zechariah 6:13 (Peace): Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.