

Ezekiel 36:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

This verse points toward God's gracious purposes of restoration despite Israel's persistent unfaithfulness. The Reformed emphasis on sovereign grace shines through—restoration doesn't depend on Israel's merit or ability but on God's covenant faithfulness and irrevocable purposes (Romans 11:29). This anticipates new covenant promises where God gives a new heart and His Spirit to enable obedience (Ezekiel 36:26-27). The pattern of judgment followed by grace-based restoration prefigures the gospel: humanity deserves condemnation but receives mercy through Christ's atoning work. God's restoration demonstrates His glory by showing grace triumphs over judgment.

Historical Context

This passage was delivered during the Babylonian exile (c. 586-571 BCE) after Jerusalem's destruction. The exiled community grappled with theological and practical questions: Why had judgment come? Would restoration occur? How should they live in exile? The historical context of ancient Near Eastern covenant patterns, conquest and exile practices, and prophetic literature provides essential background. Archaeological discoveries from this period illuminate the exile's realities and the return's historical fulfillment. Yet Ezekiel's prophecies extend

beyond immediate historical context to find fuller realization in Christ and the church, with ultimate consummation in the new creation.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen your understanding of God's character, purposes, or ways of working in history?
2. What specific application does this passage call you to make in your current circumstances or spiritual life?
3. How does this Old Testament passage illuminate New Testament teaching about Christ, salvation, or the church?

Interlinear Text

וְכָבֹדִי And I will multiply H7235	עָלֶיךָ מִ H5921	אָדָם upon you man H120	וּבְהֵמָה הִ and beast H929	וְכָבֹדִי And I will multiply H7235
וּפְרִי and bring fruit H6509	וְהוֹשַׁבְתִּי י and I will settle H3427	אֶתְּךָ מִ H853	כְּקִדְמוֹתֶיךָ מִ you after your old estates H6927	
וְהִיטְבֹתִי and will do better H2895	מִרֵאשִׁיתֶיךָ מִ unto you than at your beginnings H7221	וַיֵּדְעֶתְּ מִ and ye shall know H3045	כִּי H3588	אֲנִי י H589
יְהוָה: that I am the LORD H3068				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 33:12 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Again in this place, which is desolate without man and without beast, and in all the cities thereof, shall be an habitation of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down.

Jeremiah 31:27 (References Lord): Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

Micah 7:14 (Parallel theme): Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.

Job 42:12 (References Lord): So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

Jeremiah 30:18 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

Ezekiel 37:13 (References Lord): And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,

Hebrews 11:40 (Parallel theme): God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Ezekiel 16:55 (Parallel theme): When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate.

Hosea 2:20 (References Lord): I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

Isaiah 30:26 (References Lord): Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

