

Ezekiel 36:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Analysis

"And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God." The covenant formula concludes the restoration promises—restored land, restored relationship. For Old Testament Israel, this meant physical return to Canaan. For the church, it means spiritual inheritance of the new creation. The Reformed view sees continuity: what God promised Israel finds fuller expression in Christ's kingdom. The "land" expands to the whole earth (Matthew 5:5, Revelation 21:1-3). Physical geography foreshadows spiritual reality—eternal dwelling with God.

Historical Context

The promise (587 BC) addressed exiles mourning lost land and broken relationship. The return under Ezra-Nehemiah partially fulfilled it, but complete fulfillment awaits the new creation. The land promises are neither nullified nor simply spiritualized but expanded—the whole earth becomes God's dwelling with His people (Revelation 21:3). Church fathers and Reformers saw the land as typological, pointing to heavenly inheritance. Modern debates continue, but the core truth remains: God restores His people to covenant relationship and eternal dwelling in His presence.

Related Passages

[James 2:17](#) — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do physical land promises relate to spiritual inheritance in Christ?
2. What does restored covenant relationship look like practically in your life?

Interlinear Text

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 32:38 (References God): And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:

Jeremiah 31:33 (References God): But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 37:27 (References God): My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 37:23 (References God): Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they

have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

Ezekiel 11:20 (References God): That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

Revelation 21:7 (References God): He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Matthew 22:32 (References God): I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

Ezekiel 14:11 (References God): That the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 37:25 (Parallel theme): And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

Song of Solomon 6:3: I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.