

Ezekiel 36:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Prophesy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen:

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

אָמַר רְאֵן יִשְׁרָאֵל לְכָא |
H3651 Prophesy H5921 therefore concerning the land of Israel Thus saith
H5012 H127 H3478 H559

כִּי וְלֹגְאֵי וְתַּלְגְּבָעֹות לְאַפְּיַק יָמִים |
unto the mountains and to the hills to the rivers and to the valleys H3541
H2022 H1389 H650 H1516

וּבְקָנְאָתִי בְּקָנְאָתִי הַנְּנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים רָאֵן |
Thus saith the Lord GOD in my jealousy and in my fury H2534
H559 H136 H3069 H2005 H7068

נִשְׁאָתָם: כִּי מִכְּלָמָת תְּעַנְּד דְּבָרַתִּי |
Behold I have spoken H3282 the shame of the heathen because ye have borne
H1696 H3639 H1471 H5375

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 34:29 (Parallel theme): And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.

Psalms 74:10 (References God): O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?

Psalms 74:23 (Parallel theme): Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually.