

Ezekiel 36:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown:

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through 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

יָבֹא	הֵנּוּ	אֵלֶיךָ	וְפָנִי	אֵלֶיךָ
H3588	H2005	H413		H413
For behold I am for you and I will turn				
H6437				
וְנִעְבְּדְתֶם				
וְנִזְרַעְתֶּם:				
unto you and ye shall be tilled			and sown	
H5647			H2232	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 46:11 (Parallel theme): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Ezekiel 36:34 (Parallel theme): And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Zechariah 8:12 (Parallel theme): For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

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