

Ezekiel 37:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

Analysis

This verse reveals the theological heart of the vision: 'I shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live.' The promise of the indwelling Spirit distinguishes Old Covenant from New—while the Spirit empowered select individuals in the Old Testament, the New Covenant promises the Spirit dwelling in all God's people (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:17-18). The phrase 'my spirit' (ruchi) emphasizes the personal Holy Spirit, not merely life-force, taking up residence within believers. The result—'ye shall live'—encompasses physical restoration to the land and spiritual vitality through regeneration. God promises 'I shall place you in your own land' (hinachti etkhem al admatkem), guaranteeing return from exile and security in the promised inheritance. The purpose clause 'then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it' appears frequently in Ezekiel (over 70 times), emphasizing that God's actions authenticate His word and reveal His character. When promise becomes performance, knowledge of God deepens from intellectual assent to experiential certainty.

Historical Context

This promise encouraged exiles longing for homeland restoration. The return under Cyrus (538 BC) partially fulfilled the promise, but complete fulfillment awaits Messiah's kingdom when Israel experiences both national restoration and spiritual regeneration (Ezekiel 36:24-27, Romans 11:26-27). Jesus connected the Spirit's indwelling to the New Covenant (John 7:37-39, 14:16-17), fulfilled at

Pentecost when the Spirit was poured out on all believers. The phrase 'in your own land' spoke powerfully to exiles in Babylon, assuring God's covenant faithfulness despite judgment. The dual emphasis on Spirit and land indicates that true restoration requires both spiritual transformation and physical blessing—redemption affects the whole person and all creation (Romans 8:19-23).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of the indwelling Spirit demonstrate the New Covenant's superiority to the Old?
2. What does the connection between receiving the Spirit and being placed in the land teach about redemption's comprehensive scope affecting both spiritual and physical realities?

Interlinear Text

וְנָתַתִּי י	רוּחִי י	בְּכֶם	וְחַיִּיתֶם	וְהִנַּחֲתִי י	אֶתְכֶם
And shall put	my spirit	H0	in you and ye shall live	and I shall place	H853
H5414	H7307		H2421	H3240	
עַל	אֲדַמְתְּכֶם	וִידַעְתֶּם	כִּי	אֲנִי י	יְהוָה:
H5921	you in your own land	then shall ye know	H3588	H589	that I the LORD
	H127	H3045			H3068
דִּבַּר רַחֲמֵי	וַעֲשֵׂה יָתִי	נֹאֵם	יְהוָה:		
have spoken	it and performed	it saith	that I the LORD		
H1696	H6213	H5002	H3068		

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 36:36 (References Lord): Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

Ezekiel 36:27 (Spirit): And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 11:19 (Spirit): And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:

Ezekiel 39:29 (Spirit): Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 17:24 (References Lord): And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish: I the LORD have spoken and have done it.

1 Corinthians 15:45 (Spirit): And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Ezekiel 37:9 (References Lord): Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

Romans 8:11 (Spirit): But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Romans 8:2 (Spirit): For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Ezekiel 22:14 (References Lord): Can thine heart endure, or can thine hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with thee? I the LORD have spoken it, and will do it.