

Ezekiel 37:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

"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." God promises perpetual dwelling in the land under perpetual Davidic rule. The phrase "for ever" (olam, עולם) can mean indefinite duration or eternity. Reformed theology sees this fulfilled spiritually in the church's eternal inheritance. The physical land foreshadows the new earth where God's people dwell eternally. Christ's eternal rule guarantees permanent security—nothing separates believers from His love (Romans 8:38-39).

Historical Context

The promise (587 BC) addressed exiles mourning lost land and dynasty. God assures both will be restored permanently. The post-exilic return brought temporary restoration, but Roman destruction (AD 70) ended it. The promise finds ultimate fulfillment not in geographical Palestine but in the new creation where God's people from all nations dwell eternally (Revelation 21:1-3). The land symbolizes eternal security in God's presence. Christ's eternal reign guarantees this—His kingdom has no end (Luke 1:33).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of eternal dwelling comfort believers facing earthly insecurity?
2. What is the relationship between geographical land promises and eternal inheritance?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּשֻׁבּ וְ	עַל	הָאָרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַתִּי	עַבְדִּי
And they shall dwell	H5921	in the land	H834	that I have given	and my servant
H3427		H776		H5414	H5650
אֶשְׁרֵי לְיַעֲקֹב בְּ	וַיָּשֻׁבּ וְ	בְּהֵ	אֲבוֹתָיִךְ		
unto Jacob	H834	And they shall dwell	H0	wherein your fathers	
H3290		H3427		H1	
וַיָּשֻׁבּ וְ	עַל יְהִ	הַמָּה	בְּנֵיהֶם	בְּנֵיהֶם	
And they shall dwell	H5921	H1992	and their children's	and their children's	
H3427			H1121	H1121	
בְּנֵיהֶם	עַד	לְעוֹלָם:	דָּוִד	עַבְדִּי	נָשׁ יֵא
and their children's	for	ever	David	and my servant	shall be their prince
H1121	H5704	H5769	H1732	H5650	H5387
לְעוֹלָם:	לְהֵ				
H0	ever				
	H5769				

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 37:24 (References David): And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

Amos 9:15 (Parallel theme): And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

Ezekiel 28:25 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the heathen, then shall they dwell in their land that I have given to my servant Jacob.

