

Ezekiel 37:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.

Analysis

"And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be among them for evermore." God's restoration of Israel will testify to the nations, demonstrating His sanctifying power and covenant faithfulness. The phrase "for evermore" guarantees permanence. This missionary dimension appears throughout Scripture—Israel blessed to bless nations (Genesis 12:3). Christ's church fulfills this: God sanctifying a people from every nation, demonstrating His glory globally. The goal is universal recognition: "every knee shall bow" (Philippians 2:10). God's work with His people aims at global testimony.

Historical Context

Israel's exile shamed God's name among nations who mocked Yahweh's impotence (587 BC). Restoration would vindicate His name and power. The return from Babylon impressed surrounding nations, but complete fulfillment came through the gospel reaching all nations. The church's growth demonstrates God's sanctifying power globally. The Great Commission fulfills this: disciples from all nations testifying to God's transforming grace (Matthew 28:19). Final fulfillment awaits Christ's return when every nation acknowledges His lordship.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does your sanctification serve as testimony to unbelievers of God's transforming power?
2. What does God's concern for global testimony teach about the church's missionary calling?

Interlinear Text

יָדְעוּ	הַגּוֹיִם	אֲנִי יְהוָה	אֶת מְקוֹדְשִׁי
shall know	And the heathen	that I the LORD	do sanctify
H3045	H1471	H3068	H6942
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל	בְּהֵי יוֹם	מִקְדָּשִׁי	בְּתוֹכָם
Israel	when my sanctuary	shall be in the midst	of them for evermore
H3478	H1961	H4720	H5769

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 20:12 (References Lord): Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

Exodus 31:13 (References Lord): Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

Ezekiel 36:23 (References Lord): And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and

the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

Ephesians 5:26 (Parallel theme): That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

1 Corinthians 1:30 (Parallel theme): But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Leviticus 21:8 (References Lord): Thou shalt sanctify him therefore; for he offereth the bread of thy God: he shall be holy unto thee: for I the LORD, which sanctify you, am holy.

Psalms 102:15 (References Lord): So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

Psalms 126:2 (References Lord): Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

Psalms 79:10 (Parallel theme): Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is their God? let him be known among the heathen in our sight by the revenging of the blood of thy servants which is shed.

Romans 11:15 (Parallel theme): For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?