

Hosea 13:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

Analysis

I will ransom them from the power of the grave (מִי שְׂאוֹל אֶפְדֶּם מִמָּוֶת אֲגַאֲלֵם)—Two verbs: פָּדָה (padah, ransom by payment) and גָּאֵל (ga'al, redeem by kinsman-right). **O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction**—Paul quotes this in 1 Corinthians 15:55, applying it to Christ's resurrection victory. The Hebrew is ambiguous: 'Where are your plagues, O death?' could be taunt or summons. **Repentance shall be hid from mine eyes**—God will not change His mind about destroying death. Context debates whether this promises Israel's restoration or threatens final judgment (v.15-16 speak doom). Yet typologically, it points to Messiah's conquest of death itself.

Historical Context

This prophetic promise—'I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death'—was delivered during a period when Israel faced imminent national death through Assyrian conquest. The rhetorical questions that follow ('O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction') express God's determination to overcome even death itself to redeem His people. Paul quotes this passage in 1 Corinthians 15:55 as fulfilled in Christ's resurrection, demonstrating how Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from national death prefigured the greater resurrection victory. Though the northern kingdom ceased to exist politically after 722 BC, God's promise transcended that historical

moment, finding ultimate fulfillment in Christ's defeat of death and the resurrection of believers.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Hosea 13:14 deepen your understanding of God's character, particularly His holiness, justice, and mercy?
2. What specific attitudes, thought patterns, or behaviors does this verse call you to examine and change in light of the gospel?
3. How does this passage point forward to Christ and His redemptive work, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?

Interlinear Text

מֵיד	שָׁא וּל	אֶפְדֵּם	מָוֹת	אֶגְאֵלֵם	אֶהְיֶה
them from the power	O grave	I will ransom	O death	I will redeem	I will
H3027	H7585	H6299	H4194	H1350	H165
דְּבָרֶיךָ	מָוֹת	אֶהְיֶה	קִטְבְּךָ	שָׁא וּל	נִחַם
be thy plagues	O death	I will	be thy destruction	O grave	repentance
H1698	H4194	H165	H6987	H7585	H5164
יִסְתָּר	מֵעֵינַי				
shall be hid	from mine eyes				
H5641	H5869				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 25:8 (Parallel theme): He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

Revelation 21:4 (Parallel theme): And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Isaiah 26:19 (Parallel theme): Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

Psalms 49:15 (Redemption): But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

Psalms 16:10 (Parallel theme): For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Psalms 30:3 (Parallel theme): O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

Job 33:24 (Redemption): Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.

Revelation 20:13 (Parallel theme): And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Psalms 86:13 (Parallel theme): For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

Psalms 71:20 (Parallel theme): Thou, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.