

Hosea 13:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

Analysis

Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels. Despite fruitfulness (prosperity, population), destructive east wind comes - hot desert wind representing Assyrian invasion. Spring and fountain drying means total resource loss. Spoiling treasure and vessels indicates comprehensive plunder. This reverses blessing to curse. All earthly security proves temporary. Only Christ provides water that never dries (John 4:14, spring of water welling up to eternal life) and treasure that doesn't spoil (Matthew 6:20, treasures in heaven).

Historical Context

Israel's prosperity under Jeroboam II made them fruitful compared to neighbors. Yet Assyrian east wind destroyed everything - cities plundered, population deported, resources seized. Archaeological evidence confirms comprehensive destruction. The contrast between fruitfulness and devastation emphasizes judgment's thoroughness - nothing remains. Modern application: earthly prosperity provides no protection from divine judgment. All material security proves temporary. Only spiritual treasures endure. Christ's warning applies: where

treasure is, there heart is also (Matthew 6:21). Invest in eternal kingdom, not temporary prosperity.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does fruitfulness providing no protection from east wind's devastation warn against trusting earthly prosperity?
2. What eternal springs and treasures in Christ contrast with temporary earthly resources that dry up or get spoiled?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	וְהָיָה	בְּיָמָיו	אֶחָד	יִפְרֹא	וְיָבֹא
H3588	H1931	H996	among his brethren	Though he be fruitful	shall come
			H251	H6500	H935
קָדִים	רוּחַ	יְהוָה	מִמִּדְבָּר	עַל	
an east wind	the wind	of the LORD	from the wilderness	shall come up	
H6921	H7307	H3068	H4057	H5927	
וְיָבֹשׁ	מְקוֹרוֹ	וְיִיבֹשׁ	וּמַעְיָנוֹ	וְהָיָה	
shall become dry	and his spring	shall be dried up	and his fountain		H1931
H954	H4726	H2717	H4599		
יִשָּׁסֶה	אֹצֵר	כָּל	כָּל	חֲמֻדָּה:	
he shall spoil	the treasure	H3605	vessels	of all pleasant	
H8154	H214		H3627	H2532	

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 19:12 (Parallel theme): But she was plucked up in fury, she was cast down to the ground, and the east wind dried up her fruit: her strong rods were broken and withered; the fire consumed them.

Ezekiel 17:10 (Parallel theme): Yea, behold, being planted, shall it prosper? shall it not utterly wither, when the east wind toucheth it? it shall wither in the furrows where it grew.

Jeremiah 4:11 (Parallel theme): At that time shall it be said to this people and to Jerusalem, A dry wind of the high places in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to fan, nor to cleanse,

Genesis 49:22 (Parallel theme): Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

Genesis 41:52 (Parallel theme): And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.