

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

בְּ יְהֹוָה	אֲחֵיכֶם	יִפְרַח יְהֹוָה	בְּ וְאַ
H3588	H1931	H996	among his brethren
			Though he be fruitful
		H251	shall come
			H6500
			H935
קָדִים	רִים	מִמְדַּבָּר	עַל הָ
an east wind	the wind	of the LORD	from the wilderness
H6921	H7307	H3068	shall come up
			H4057
			H5927
וְשָׁ	מִקְרָרָוּ	וְיִצְחַב בְּ	וְשָׁ
shall become dry	and his spring	shall be dried up	and his fountain
H954	H4726	H2717	H1931
וְשָׁ	כָּל אֹזֶץ רֹ	כָּל יְ	סְמִדְתָּה:
he shall spoil	the treasure	vessels	of all pleasant
H8154	H214	H3605	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.

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