

Hosea 2:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

Analysis

The cosmic restoration: 'And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth.' This verse describes a chain of divine response reversing the covenant curses. The phrase 'in that day' (בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, bayyom hahu) points to eschatological restoration. God 'hearing' (אָמַר, e'neh—literally 'answer') the heavens initiates a cascade: heavens answer earth, earth answers grain/wine/oil (v.22), which answer Jezreel (v.23). This reverses the broken relationship where creation itself rebelled against Israel due to sin (cf. Romans 8:20-22). The repetition 'I will hear...I will hear' emphasizes divine initiative—God begins the restoration process. Only through Christ does creation find redemption from bondage to decay (Romans 8:21). The cosmic reconciliation anticipated here finds ultimate fulfillment when Christ makes all things new (Revelation 21:5).

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern covenant blessings promised agricultural prosperity; curses brought drought and famine (Deuteronomy 28). Israel's sin had broken the covenant, causing creation itself to groan. The imagery of heavens and earth in relationship reflects Hebrew cosmology where the created order operates in harmony under God's sovereignty. For exilic Israel, this promise of cosmic restoration offered hope beyond political restoration—God would restore not only covenant relationship but the very fruitfulness of creation. This anticipates the

New Covenant where the Spirit poured out brings life to all things (Ezekiel 36:25-27, 37:1-14).

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the cosmic scope of redemption (affecting all creation) expand your understanding of salvation beyond merely personal salvation?
2. What does it mean that God initiates the chain of response ('I will hear'), and how does this demonstrate grace?
3. How does Romans 8:19-23 connect to this promise, and what does it teach about creation's participation in redemption?

Interlinear Text

וְיֹאמֶר הָנָה	בַּיּוֹם	בַּיּוֹם	וְיֹאמֶר הָנָה	וְיֹאמֶר הָנָה
H1961	And it shall come to pass in that day	H3117	H1931	I will hear
			H6030	saith
			H5002	

הָאָרֶץ	אֵת	וְיֹאמֶר	אֵת	יְהִי הָאָרֶץ
the earth	at	I will hear	at	the earth
H3068	H853	H6030	H853	H776

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 8:12 (Parallel theme): For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

Matthew 6:33 (Parallel theme): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Isaiah 65:24 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Isaiah 55:10 (Parallel theme): For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

Romans 8:32 (Parallel theme): He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Zechariah 13:9 (References Lord): And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

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