

Hosea 2:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.

Analysis

God's reversal of provision: 'Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.' Since Israel credited Baal for God's gifts (v. 8), God withdraws them. The Hebrew emphasizes divine ownership: 'MY corn...MY wine...MY wool...MY flax.' Everything belongs to God; we're stewards, not owners. 'In the time thereof...in the season thereof' indicates God's sovereign timing—He gives and withdraws according to His purposes. 'Recover' (hitsalti) means snatch away, rescue from misuse. 'Given to cover her nakedness' recalls verse 3's threat to strip her naked—without God's provision, shame is exposed. This demonstrates that all blessing flows from God's grace; when misused for idolatry, He righteously reclaims it. James 1:17 declares 'every good gift comes from the Father.' Recognizing God's ownership produces gratitude and stewardship.

Historical Context

Historically fulfilled through agricultural disasters (drought, locusts, Amos 4:6-10) and Assyrian conquest stripping Israel's wealth. When people attribute God's gifts to false sources, He removes them to expose the truth. This principle operates continually: prosperity apart from acknowledgment of God often leads to loss, teaching dependence. Israel's cycle of apostasy-judgment-restoration (Judges) demonstrates this pattern. Jesus's parable of the rich fool (Luke 12:16-21) illustrates the same truth: accumulating God's blessings without recognizing Him

as source leads to loss. Only those who steward gifts in recognition of the Giver experience lasting blessing.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. Do I recognize that everything I possess—income, possessions, abilities—belongs to God and is entrusted to me for stewardship?
2. How might God 'take away' blessings I've misused or misattributed to expose my dependence on Him?

Interlinear Text

לְכִי	אֲשׁוּב	וְלִקְחֹתִי	דְגָנִי	בְּעֵת
H3651	Therefore will I return	and take away	my corn	in the time
	H7725	H3947	H1715	H6256
וּתְרוּשָׁי	בְּמוֹעֵד	וְהִצַּלְתִּי	צֶמֶר־י	וּפְשֵׁת־י
thereof and my wine	in the season	thereof and will recover	my wool	and my flax
H8492	H4150	H5337	H6785	H6593
לְכֹסֹת	אֶת	עֲרוֹתֶיהָ:		
given to cover	H853	her nakedness		
H3680		H6172		

Additional Cross-References

Malachi 3:18 (Parallel theme): Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Malachi 1:4 (Parallel theme): Whereas Edom saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the LORD hath indignation for ever.

Hosea 2:3 (Parallel theme): Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst.

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