

Isaiah 1:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

Analysis

Three images of isolation convey Jerusalem's vulnerability: a temporary shelter in a vineyard after harvest, a watchman's hut in a cucumber field, and a besieged city. The 'daughter of Zion' personifies Jerusalem as a vulnerable woman, emphasizing both the covenant relationship and the pathos of her abandonment. Only divine preservation prevents total destruction.

Historical Context

During Sennacherib's 701 BC invasion, 46 fortified cities fell, leaving Jerusalem isolated like a lone shelter in an empty field, miraculously preserved by God's intervention (2 Kings 19).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. When you feel isolated and vulnerable, do you recognize God's preserving hand?
2. How does Jerusalem's precarious position foreshadow Christ's similar isolation before His crucifixion?

Interlinear Text

יְנוּתָךְ הַ	בֵּת	צִיּוֹן	כְּסֹדֶה	בְּכַרְם	כְּמִלּוֹךְ הַ
is left	And the daughter	of Zion	as a cottage	in a vineyard	as a lodge
H3498	H1323	H6726	H5521	H3754	H4412
בְּמִקְשָׁה הַ	כְּעִיר	נְצוּרָה:			
in a garden of cucumbers	city	as a besieged			
H4750	H5892	H5341			

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 9:9 (Parallel theme): Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

John 12:15 (Parallel theme): Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

Zechariah 2:10 (Parallel theme): Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 62:11 (Parallel theme): Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

Isaiah 10:32 (Parallel theme): As yet shall he remain at Nob that day: he shall shake his hand against the mount of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

Lamentations 2:6 (Parallel theme): And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle, as if it were of a garden: he hath destroyed his places of the assembly:

the LORD hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of his anger the king and the priest.

Isaiah 37:22 (Parallel theme): This is the word which the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin, the daughter of Zion, hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee.

Isaiah 4:4 (Parallel theme): When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

Psalms 9:14 (Parallel theme): That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

Job 27:18 (Parallel theme): He buildeth his house as a moth, and as a booth that the keeper maketh.