

Isaiah 11:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Analysis

Universal knowledge of the Lord characterizes the messianic kingdom. 'They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain' promises complete cessation of violence throughout God's realm. The comparison to waters covering the sea suggests comprehensive, inescapable knowledge of God—as thorough as ocean coverage. This describes the new covenant promise (Jeremiah 31:34) and ultimately the new creation where God's glory fills everything. Universal knowledge produces universal peace.

Historical Context

Partially fulfilled in gospel spread bringing knowledge of God worldwide. More completely fulfilled in new earth where 'the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea' (Habakkuk 2:14). In new creation, nothing will obscure God's glory—His presence and knowledge will be universal and immediate. The progression: Old Testament (limited knowledge), gospel age (spreading knowledge), new creation (complete knowledge).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does increasing knowledge of God produce increasing peace and righteousness?
2. What does universal knowledge of the Lord look like in practical terms?
3. How can we participate in spreading knowledge of God until it covers the earth?

Interlinear Text

לֹא H3808	יְרַעַעו H7489	וְלֹא H3808	יִשְׁחַד יְתוֹ H7843	בְּכָל H3605	הַר H2022	קֹדֶשׁ י H6944	כִּי H3588
	They shall not hurt		nor destroy		mountain	in all my holy	
מְלֵא הַ H4390	אֶרֶץ H776	דַּעַת H1844	אֶת H853	יְהוָה H3068	כַּמַּיִם H4325		
shall be full	for the earth	of the knowledge		of the LORD	as the waters		
לִיָּם H3220	מְכַסִּים H3680						
the sea	cover						

Additional Cross-References

Habakkuk 2:14 (References Lord): For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 52:10 (Holy): The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Psalms 72:19 (Parallel theme): And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Job 5:23 (Parallel theme): For thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field: and the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee.

