

Isaiah 14:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing.

Analysis

'The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing.' Universal relief follows tyrant's fall. 'The whole earth'—not just Israel but all nations oppressed by Babylon—experiences rest and quiet. The natural response is singing—joy, praise, celebration. This is millennial/new creation language—when all evil is finally defeated, the whole earth will rejoice. The verse connects personal deliverance (Israel's restoration, v.3) to cosmic restoration (whole earth's peace, v.7). God's purposes include not just His people's salvation but creation's renewal (Romans 8:19-22). One oppressor's fall brings regional peace; when the ultimate oppressor (Satan) falls, universal peace arrives.

Historical Context

When Babylon fell (539 BC), many subject peoples celebrated and were allowed to return home under Cyrus's policy. The relief was real but temporary—Persia became the new empire, then Greece, then Rome. No earthly empire's fall brings permanent universal peace. This points beyond history to eschatology—the vision of final peace when Christ returns, Satan is defeated, and the new creation dawns. Isaiah's prophecy layers historical fulfillment (Babylon's fall) with eschatological hope (ultimate peace). Reformed theology maintains this already-but-not-yet tension: Christ has conquered, yet full peace awaits His return.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the whole earth's celebration at tyranny's fall reflect creation's longing for redemption (Romans 8:22)?
2. What does temporary historical peace teach us about longing for ultimate eschatological peace?

Interlinear Text

רֹתֶה: פָּצַח אֶת־בְּרִית־הָאָרֶץ כִּי־שְׁלָמָה נָתָת־לְעַמּוֹן
is at rest and is quiet The whole earth they break forth into singing
H5117 H8252 H3605 H776 H6476 H7440

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 49:13 (Sin): Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

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