

Isaiah 16:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field; and in the vineyards there shall be no singing, neither shall there be shouting: the treaders shall tread out no wine in their presses; I have made their vintage shouting to cease.

Analysis

Joy and gladness are removed from fruitful fields; no singing in vineyards; no treaders tread out wine—all celebration ceases. The Hebrew *simchah* (joy) and *giyel* (gladness) indicate exuberant harvest celebrations. God declares "I have made their vintage shouting to cease"—divine agency removing joy. This illustrates all human joy ultimately derives from divine blessing; judgment removes that blessing, leaving emptiness. True joy comes only from God (Psalm 16:11); all other sources are temporary and subject to removal.

Historical Context

Ancient harvest festivals were central to agricultural societies—times of communal celebration, feasting, thanksgiving. Grape harvests involved joyous treading accompanied by songs. Archaeological remains include wine presses where grapes were foot-crushed. Systematic removal of harvest joy created profound social trauma—eliminating not just food but communal celebrations bonding society. This judgment struck Moab's cultural heart.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does joy's removal teach about human happiness apart from God's blessing?
2. How does harvest celebration's cessation illustrate judgment's comprehensive impact?
3. Why is lasting joy possible only through relationship with God?

Interlinear Text

וְנֶאֱסָרָה	שְׂמֵחָהּ	וְגִיל	מִן	הַכֶּרֶם ל
is taken away	And gladness	and joy	H4480	out of the plentiful field
H622	H8057	H1524		H3759
וּבְכֶרֶם יַם	לֹא	יִהְיֶה	א	
and in the vineyards	H3808	there shall be no singing	H3808	
H3754		H7442		
יִרְעַע	אֵין	בִּיקְבֵּי יַם	לֹא	הַדֹּרֶךְ
neither shall there be shouting	no wine	in their presses	H3808	shall tread out
H7321	H3196	H3342		H1869
הַדֹּרֶךְ	הֵיכָד	הַשְׁבִּיתִי:		
shall tread out	I have made their vintage shouting	to cease		
H1869	H1959	H7673		

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 48:33 (Parallel theme): And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

Amos 5:11 (Parallel theme): Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone,

but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

Amos 5:17 (Parallel theme): And in all vineyards shall be wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD.

Judges 9:27 (Creation): And they went out into the fields, and gathered their vineyards, and trode the grapes, and made merry, and went into the house of their god, and did eat and drink, and cursed Abimelech.

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