

# Isaiah 16:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

## Analysis

---

"In mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness." This Messianic prophecy interrupts the Moab oracle with hope. The Davidic throne will be established "in mercy" (chesed—covenant love) and "in truth" (emet—faithfulness). The ruler's reign manifests judging (righteous governance), seeking judgment (pursuing justice), and hasting righteousness (swift execution of right). Reformed eschatology sees Christ fulfilling this—the true Son of David whose reign perfectly manifests mercy, truth, justice, and righteousness.

## Historical Context

---

This prophecy references the Davidic covenant (2 Samuel 7) promising an eternal throne. By Isaiah's time, Davidic monarchy faced serious threats—the northern kingdom had fallen (722 BCE), Judah faced Assyrian pressure. Yet God promises the ultimate Davidic king. The New Testament identifies Jesus as this fulfillment (Luke 1:32-33; Acts 15:16-17), whose eternal reign transcends temporal political turmoil.

## Related Passages

---

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this Messianic prophecy provide hope amid judgment oracles?
2. What does it mean that Christ's throne is established in mercy yet characterized by perfect justice?
3. How does Christ's reign fulfill judging, seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness?

## Interlinear Text

---

יְהוּכָן	בְּחַסְדִּי	כִּסֵּא	וְיָשִׁב	עַל יוֹ	
be established	And in mercy	shall the throne	and he shall sit		H5921
H3559	H2617	H3678	H3427		
בְּאֵמֶת	בְּאֵהֶל	דָּוִד	שֹׁפֵט	וְדֹרֵשׁ	מִשְׁפָּט
upon it in truth	in the tabernacle	of David	judging	and seeking	judgment
H571	H168	H1732	H8199	H1875	H4941
וְהָרָץ	צִדְקָה				
and hasting	righteousness				
H4106	H6664				

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Daniel 7:14** (Kingdom): And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

**Micah 4:7** (Kingdom): And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

**Daniel 7:27** (Kingdom): And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

**Zechariah 9:9** (Righteousness): 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.

**Proverbs 20:28** (Grace): Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.

**2 Samuel 7:16** (Kingdom): And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.