

Isaiah 2:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

Analysis

The phrase 'day of the LORD of hosts' describes the climactic intervention when God directly judges proud humanity. Four characteristics of proud humans will be targeted: pride, loftiness, haughtiness, and being lifted up. This comprehensive catalog emphasizes that every form of human exaltation opposes God's glory and will be judged. The Hebrew repetition intensifies the certainty of this humbling.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern cultures valued honor and status. Isaiah's prophecy that all human glory would be stripped away challenged fundamental cultural values, declaring God's glory supreme over human achievement.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. In what ways does contemporary culture's obsession with self-esteem conflict with this passage?
2. How can you cultivate humility before God in a society that celebrates self-promotion?

Interlinear Text

כָל עַל אֲבָא וְתַלְיַהַת הָיָה וְיָמָי כָל
H3588 For the day of the LORD of hosts H5921 H3605
H3117 H3068 H6635

כָל עַל יְהוָה וְאָהָב
shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty H5921 H3605
H1343 H7311

נִשְׁפָל אֲנָשָׁה
and upon every one that is lifted up and he shall be brought low H8213
H5375

Additional Cross-References

Malachi 4:1 (References Lord): For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

Isaiah 23:9 (References Lord): The LORD of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth.

Proverbs 16:5 (References Lord): Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Luke 14:11 (Parallel theme): For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

