

Isaiah 25:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest, and
Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is
trodden down for the dunghill.

Analysis

For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest (כִּי־תָנוּחַ יַד־יְהוָה בְּהָר הַזֶּה)—Mount Zion becomes the resting place of God's yad (hand, power). The verb nuach (rest, settle, remain) indicates permanent presence. God's hand, which scattered enemies, now rests protectively on His people. **And Moab shall be trodden down under him**—Suddenly the verse pivots from Israel's blessing to Moab's judgment. Moab, Israel's ancient enemy (descended from Lot, Genesis 19:37), represents all who oppose God's purposes. The verb dush (thresh, trample) describes grain being trampled on threshing floors.

Even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill (כַּהֲדֹשׁ מִתְבֵּן בְּמוֹ מִדְמֵנָה)—The Hebrew madmenah (dunghill, manure pit) is literally 'Madmenah,' punning on a Moabite city while meaning dung. Straw trampled into manure pits becomes worthless waste. This harsh imagery contrasts Israel's exaltation with enemies' humiliation. Moab's pride (Isaiah 16:6) receives its comeuppance. The theological principle: God's blessing on His people necessitates judgment on His enemies. These aren't separate realities but two sides of one coin. When God's hand rests on Zion, it presses down on Moab. The kingdom's establishment defeats all opposition—a theme Revelation depicts as Christ treading the winepress of God's wrath (Revelation 19:15).

Historical Context

Moab had been Israel's rival since the wilderness period. They hired Balaam to curse Israel (Numbers 22-24), oppressed Israel during the Judges (Judges 3:12-30), and showed hostility through the monarchy. By Isaiah's time, Moab represented the type of enemy who mocked God's people (Zephaniah 2:8-10). Their judgment symbolizes all anti-God powers' ultimate defeat.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's blessing on His people necessarily involve judgment on His enemies—and why can't these be separated?
2. What does Moab represent in Christian experience—what enemies of faith must be 'trodden down' for God's kingdom to rest?
3. How should believers balance rejoicing in God's triumph with grief over the wicked's destruction?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	תָנוּחַ	יָד	יְהוָה	בְּהָר	הַזֶּה
H3588	rest	shall the hand	of the LORD	For in this mountain	H2088
H5117	H3027	H3068	H2022		
וְשָׁ	מוֹאָב	תַּחֲתָיו	וְשָׁ	מִתְבַּיֵּן	
is trodden down	and Moab	H8478	is trodden down	under him even as straw	
H1758	H4124	H1758	H4963		
מִדְמָנָה:	בְּמִי				
H4325	H4087				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 25:6 (References Lord): And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.

Jeremiah 48:2 (Parallel theme): There shall be no more praise of Moab: in Heshbon they have devised evil against it; come, and let us cut it off from being a nation. Also thou shalt be cut down, O Madmen; the sword shall pursue thee.

Zephaniah 2:9 (References Lord): Therefore as I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them.