

Isaiah 27:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

Analysis

I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day. God Himself becomes the vineyard's guardian, using emphatic first-person pronouns: **I the LORD** (ani Yahweh notserah, אָנָּי יְהֹוָה נִצְּרָה). The verb natsar (נִצָּר) means to guard, watch over, preserve—the same root used for watchman. This divine watching is comprehensive: **every moment** (lirega'im, לִרְגָּעִים, literally "at moments" or constantly), **night and day** (laylah vayom, לִילָּה וָיּוֹם, continuous protection).

I will water it (ashqenah, אַשְׁקְנָה) shows God's active nurture, not mere passive watching. He provides what the vineyard needs for growth. **Lest any hurt it** (pen yifqod 'aleyha, פֶּן־יִפְקֹד עָלֶיהָ) reveals protective purpose—God intervenes to prevent harm. The contrast with chapter 5 is striking: there God removed the hedge and let the vineyard be trampled (5:5); here He personally guards it constantly. This reflects the New Covenant promise where God writes His law on hearts (Jeremiah 31:33) and keeps believers through His power (1 Peter 1:5). Jesus promises that no one can snatch His sheep from the Father's hand (John 10:28-29).

Historical Context

Ancient vineyards required constant care—irrigation in dry seasons, protection from wild animals, watchmen to guard against thieves. Isaiah's audience understood the intensive labor involved. God's promise to personally tend His vineyard meant Israel wouldn't depend on unfaithful shepherds/leaders but on

Yahweh Himself. For the church, this assures believers of God's preserving grace—He who began the good work will complete it (Philippians 1:6).

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does knowing that God keeps you 'every moment' and 'night and day' affect your sense of security in salvation?
2. What does God's active watering (not just watching) teach about His involvement in believers' spiritual growth?
3. How should God's protective care ('lest any hurt it') shape our understanding of trials and spiritual warfare?

Interlinear Text

לֹא־יָנַח יְהוָה אֶת־אָרוּבָהּ לְרוּבָע יָמִים אֲשֶׁר־בָּהּ | תְּפַלֵּן תְּפַלֵּן |
H589 I the LORD H3068 H5341 H7281 H8248 H6435 H6485
do keep it every moment it I will water lest any hurt

לְלִילָה עַל־יְמִים אֲרוּבָהּ יְהוָה אֶת־אָרוּבָהּ
H5921 it night and day do keep
H3915 H3117 H5341

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 58:11 (References Lord): And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

1 Samuel 2:9 (Parallel theme): He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

Ezekiel 34:11 (References Lord): For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

Isaiah 60:16 (References Lord): Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings: and thou shalt know that I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

Isaiah 46:9 (Parallel theme): Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

Ezekiel 34:24 (References Lord): And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it.

Ezekiel 37:14 (References Lord): And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 5:6 (Parallel theme): And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

Isaiah 46:4 (Parallel theme): And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

Psalms 46:5 (Parallel theme): God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.