

Isaiah 30:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

Analysis

Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days—Celestial luminosity increases exponentially: moon bright as current sun, sun seven times brighter than normal. The Hebrew shiv'atayim (sevenfold) and or shiv'at ha-yamim (light of seven days) suggests either seven days' light compressed into one, or perfection (seven = completeness). This supernatural light transforms creation. **In the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound**—The verbs chavash (bind up) and rafa (heal) are medical, describing wound care. God acts as physician to injured Israel.

This verse connects physical restoration (supernatural light) with spiritual healing (binding wounds). The light imagery evokes Genesis 1:3-5 (creation's first day) and anticipates Revelation 21:23: 'The city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.' Increased luminosity symbolizes God's unveiled presence. The 'sevenfold' intensification suggests absolute perfection—no shadows, no darkness, full revelation. Paul writes: 'Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face' (1 Corinthians 13:12). This prophetic vision describes that 'then'—when God's healing is complete and His glory illuminates all.

Historical Context

Ancient peoples measured prosperity partly by light—longer days for work, bright nights for safety. Supernatural light suggests perfect conditions, perpetual day. This builds on promises of divine illumination (Isaiah 60:19-20). Literally fulfilled in New Jerusalem; symbolically fulfilled when believers walk in God's light rather than darkness (1 John 1:5-7). The 'binding wounds' refers to exile's trauma, captivity's pain, or ultimately, sin's devastation—all healed in final restoration.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does light function as metaphor for God's presence, truth, and holiness throughout Scripture?
2. What does 'sevenfold' light reveal about the perfection and completeness of future restoration?
3. How do we presently experience this 'light' in partial form through Christ, 'the light of the world' (John 8:12)?

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 14:7 (Light): But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

Job 5:18 (Parallel theme): For he maketh sore, and bindeth up: he woundeth, and his hands make whole.

Zechariah 12:8 (References Lord): In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

Isaiah 11:9 (References Lord): They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Hosea 6:1 (References Lord): Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

Lamentations 2:13 (Parallel theme): What thing shall I take to witness for thee? what thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? what shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion? for thy breach is great like the sea: who can heal thee?