

Isaiah 32:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly.

Analysis

The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge (ולבב נימחים יבין דעת) ulevav nimharim yavin lada'at)—the **לב** (lev, heart) of the **נימחים** (nimharim, rash, hasty) will **בין** (bin, understand, discern) **דעת** (da'at, knowledge). **And the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly** (ולשון עלגים תמהר לדבר צחות) uleshon illegim temaher ledabber tsachot)—the **לשון** (lashon, tongue) of **עלגים** (illegim, stammerers) will be quick (**מהר**, mahar) to speak **תוחת** (tsachot, plainly, clearly, distinctly).

Transformation affects both reception (heart understanding) and expression (tongue speaking). The 'rash' (רASH, nimharim)—those hasty in judgment, impulsive—gain contemplative wisdom. Stammerers gain fluency. This recalls Moses's objection: 'I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue' (Exodus 4:10), to which God responded by enabling him. At Pentecost, the Spirit gave utterance (Acts 2:4)—stammering Galileans spoke eloquently in multiple languages. The gospel transforms both comprehension and communication.

Historical Context

Ancient cultures highly valued eloquence and wisdom. Kings employed wise counselors; prophets needed clear speech. Yet Israel's history showed the rash making foolish decisions (Rehoboam, 1 Kings 12) and the wise being silenced. Messianic age inverts this: former fools gain wisdom, former stammerers speak

clearly. This describes conversion—the foolish things of the world becoming wise (1 Corinthians 1:27), fishermen becoming articulate apostles.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How has Christ transformed your 'rash heart' to understand spiritual knowledge you couldn't grasp before?
2. When has God enabled you to speak clearly about Him despite feeling like a 'stammerer'?
3. What area of spiritual understanding remains 'rash' (hasty, shallow) and needs deeper transformation?

Interlinear Text

בְּלֹבֶב	רָמָמָה	יְגִיעָה	לְדִעָת	וְלִשְׁוֹן
The heart	also of the rash	shall understand	H3045	and the tongue

לְזִבְרָעָה	תְּמִימָה	רָעַלְגָּה	יָם	אֲחֹתָה
of the stammerers	also of the rash	to speak	plainly	
H5926	H4116	H1696	H6703	

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 29:24 (Parallel theme): They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.