

Isaiah 32:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The vile person shall be no more called liberal, nor the churl said to be bountiful.

Analysis

The vile person shall be no more called liberal (לֹא-יִקְרָא עוֹד לְנָבֵל נָדִיב, lo-yiqare od lenaval nadiv)—the נָבֵל (naval, fool, vile person, scoundrel) won't be called נָדִיב (nadiv, noble, generous, liberal). **Nor the churl said to be bountiful** (וְלִכְלִי לֹא יֹאמֵר שׁוֹעַ, ulekhilay lo ye'amer shoa)—the כִּלַּי (kilay, miser, churl) won't be termed שׁוֹעַ (shoa, rich, bountiful).

Messianic kingdom brings moral clarity—evil won't be called good, misers won't be praised as generous. The נָבֵל (naval) is morally corrupt (like Nabal in 1 Samuel 25), not merely foolish. Current age permits moral inversion: calling evil good and good evil (Isaiah 5:20). Politicians reframe greed as 'success,' sexual immorality as 'freedom,' oppression as 'progress.' Christ's reign will expose truth, ending the linguistic sleight-of-hand that disguises vice as virtue. Romans 1:32 describes those who 'knowing the judgment of God... not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them'—celebrating what should be condemned.

Historical Context

Throughout history, propagandists have weaponized language to disguise evil. Slave traders called themselves 'merchants.' Nazis used euphemisms for genocide. Modern culture calls abortion 'choice,' pornography 'entertainment,' greed 'ambition.' The Messianic kingdom will strip away euphemisms, calling things by their true names. Revelation 21:8 and 22:15 exclude specific categories from New Jerusalem—no linguistic camouflage can disguise wickedness before the Judge.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What vices does contemporary culture disguise with pleasant-sounding labels?
2. How does the church sometimes adopt worldly euphemisms rather than biblical truth-telling?
3. What would it look like for you to speak with Kingdom clarity, calling things what they truly are?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יִקְרָא	עַד	לְנֶכֶל	נְדִיב	וּלְכִילִי	לֹא
H3808	shall be no more called	H5750	The vile person	liberal	nor the churl	H3808
	H7121		H5036	H5081	H3596	
יֹאמַר	שְׂוֵעַ:					
said	to be bountiful					
H559	H7771					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 5:20 (Parallel theme): Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!