

Isaiah 33:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.

Analysis

And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick (וְבִלְיָאֵמַר שָׁכֵן חֲלִיתִי, uval-yomar shakhen chaliti)—the שָׁכֵן (shakhen, inhabitant, dweller) won't say 'I am sick' (חָלָה, chalah). **The people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity** (הָעָם הַנִּשְׂאָר בָּהֶם יִשָּׁחַט, ha'am hayoshev bah nesu avon)—the people dwelling there are נִשְׂחָט (nasa, forgiven, lifted up, pardoned) from אָוֶן (avon, iniquity).

Isaiah 33 concludes with comprehensive shalom: no sickness, complete forgiveness. The connection is profound—sickness often resulted from sin (see John 5:14, 1 Corinthians 11:30), but covenant healing includes both physical and spiritual restoration. Exodus 15:26: 'I am the LORD that healeth thee.' The ultimate fulfillment awaits new creation: 'God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain' (Revelation 21:4). The root issue—iniquity—is removed, so its fruit—sickness, death—also vanishes. Psalm 103:3: 'Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.'

Historical Context

Siege conditions brought disease—cramped quarters, poor sanitation, malnutrition weakened immune systems. Deliverance from Assyria meant health restoration. But deeper reality: covenant faithfulness brings blessing (Deuteronomy 28:1-14), including health. Messiah's ministry demonstrated this connection—healing and forgiveness united (Mark 2:5-11, 'Son, thy sins be forgiven thee... Arise, and take

up thy bed'). Ultimately, Christ bore both sin and sickness (Isaiah 53:4-5, Matthew 8:17).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the connection between forgiven iniquity and no sickness reveal sin's comprehensive consequences?
2. What does complete healing—physical, spiritual, emotional—look like in God's restored Kingdom?
3. How can you experience now (partially) the shalom that will be complete in new creation?

Interlinear Text

וְבִל	יֹאמַר	שָׁכֵן	חֵל יִתִּי	הָעָם	הַיֹּשֵׁב	בָּה
H1077	shall not say	And the inhabitant	I am sick	the people	that dwell	H0
	H559	H7934	H2470	H5971	H3427	
	נֶשֶׂא	עֲוֹן:				
	therein shall be forgiven	their iniquity				
	H5375	H5771				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 50:20 (Sin): In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

Revelation 21:4 (Parallel theme): And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Isaiah 44:22 (Sin): I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.

Isaiah 58:8 (Parallel theme): Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.

James 5:14 (Parallel theme): Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

Exodus 15:26 (Parallel theme): And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Deuteronomy 7:15 (Parallel theme): And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

Revelation 22:2 (Parallel theme): In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Isaiah 30:26 (Parallel theme): 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.

Deuteronomy 28:27 (Parallel theme): The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.