

# Isaiah 34:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest.

## Analysis

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The "wild beasts" and "satyr" (Hebrew "sa'ir", possibly demons or wild goats) meeting suggests demonic activity in desolate places. The "screech owl" (Hebrew "lilit", possibly Lilith, a night demon in ancient Near Eastern mythology) finding rest indicates spiritual darkness filling the void left by God's judgment. While not affirming pagan mythology, Isaiah uses culturally understood imagery to communicate complete spiritual desolation. The Reformed view sees this as describing both literal desolation and spiritual darkness.

## Historical Context

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Ancient peoples associated ruins with demonic activity. Jesus referenced demons seeking rest in waterless places (Matthew 12:43), connecting to this imagery.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does spiritual desolation follow when God's presence departs?
2. What does this teach about the reality of spiritual warfare?
3. How should we understand places and nations given over to spiritual darkness?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיִגְשֶׁשׁ	בְּצִיםָּה	אֶת	אֵי יִם
<b>shall also meet</b>	<b>The wild beasts of the desert</b>	H854	<b>with the wild beasts of the island</b>
H6298	H6728		H338
וְיִשְׁעַע יְרֵעַ	אֶל יְרֵעַ הַזָּהָר	אֶת יְקַרְבָּא	שֶׁמֶן יְרֵג יְשַׁעַת
<b>and the satyr</b>	<b>to his fellow</b>	<b>shall cry</b>	<b>also shall rest</b>
H8163	H5921	H7453	H389
		H7121	H8033
לְלִיל יְתָהָר	לְלִיל וְמִצְאָה	לְלִיל יְתָהָר	מִנּוֹתָן:
<b>the screech owl</b>	<b>there and find</b>	H0	<b>for herself a place of rest</b>
H3917	H4672		H4494

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