

Isaiah 34:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

Analysis

The command to "seek...out of the book of the LORD" emphasizes Scripture's authority and reliability in prophecy. "No one of these shall fail" declares the absolute certainty of God's word—every prophesied detail will occur. The phrase "his mouth hath commanded" points to divine authorship, while "his spirit hath gathered them" shows the Holy Spirit's role in fulfilling prophecy. This self-authentication of Scripture undergirds the Reformed principle of sola scriptura.

Historical Context

Isaiah calls readers to verify his prophecies' fulfillment by consulting written records, demonstrating Scripture's self-validating nature through fulfilled prophecy.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does fulfilled prophecy strengthen our confidence in all Scripture?

2. What does the command to search Scripture teach about personal responsibility in faith?
3. How should the certainty of God's word affect our response to biblical warnings?

Interlinear Text

יִמְהַר נָה	אִם תִּקְרָא	יְהוָה	סֵפֶר	מֵעַל	דִּרְשׁ ו
of these	and read	of the LORD	of the book	Seek ye out	
H2007	H7121	H3068	H5612	H5921	H1875
פִּי	כִּי	פָקַד דּו	לֹא	רְעוּתָהּ	אִשָּׁה
for my mouth	shall want	her mate	shall fail	none	
H6310	H6485	H3808	H5737	H802	H3808
קִבְּצָן:	וְהָיָה	וְרוּחוֹ	צִוָּה	וְהָיָה	וְהָיָה
it hath gathered	and his spirit	it hath commanded			
H6908	H1931	H7307	H6680	H1931	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 33:9 (Parallel theme): For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

Joshua 1:8 (Parallel theme): This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Matthew 5:18 (Parallel theme): For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Isaiah 30:8 (Parallel theme): Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

Psalms 33:6 (References Lord): By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Proverbs 23:12 (Parallel theme): Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.

John 10:35 (Parallel theme): If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

Luke 21:33 (Parallel theme): Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Amos 3:7 (References Lord): Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

Malachi 3:16 (References Lord): Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.