

Isaiah 36:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me: and eat ye every one of his vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cistern;

Analysis

The offer of 'a land like your own land' is a satanic counterfeit of God's promises - a substitute blessing that requires surrender and compromise. This echoes the serpent's offer in Eden and foreshadows the Antichrist's false peace. The enemy always offers immediate comfort at the cost of ultimate blessing. True faith endures present difficulty for future glory (Romans 8:18).

Historical Context

Assyrian resettlement policy (documented in royal annals) involved deportation to similar climates to ensure agricultural productivity and prevent rebellion through cultural displacement.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What counterfeits of God's promises tempt you to compromise your faith?
2. How can you distinguish between legitimate provision and satanic substitutes?

Interlinear Text

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 3:10 (Parallel theme): In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

1 Kings 4:25 (Parallel theme): And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon.

Micah 4:4 (Parallel theme): But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

