

Isaiah 36:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

Analysis

Rabshakeh's offer of relocation to "a land like your own land" is dressed-up slavery. The litany of promised abundance—grain, wine, bread, vineyards—sounds appealing but ignores that these blessings are tied to the Promised Land covenant. Exchanging the land God gave for foreign territory means abandoning covenant promises. This temptation parallels Satan offering Jesus all kingdoms (Matthew 4:8-9)—trading God's promises for immediate comfort. The offer reveals that sometimes our greatest temptation is not obvious evil but comfortable compromise.

Historical Context

Assyrian policy was to deport conquered populations to prevent rebellion and assimilate conquered peoples. Rabshakeh honestly describes what awaits if Judah surrenders.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does the enemy tempt us to trade God's promises for immediate comfort?
2. What does it mean to value God's specific calling over apparently better opportunities?
3. How do we recognize when "good" offers are actually compromises that forfeit God's best?

Interlinear Text

עַד	בֹּאִי	וְלָקַחְתִּי	אֶתְךָ	אֶל	אֶרֶץ	אֶרֶץ	אֶרֶץ
H5704	Until I come	and take you away	H853	H413	a land	a land	a land
	H935	H3947			H776	H776	H776

דָּגָן	וְתִיר וְשֵׁנ	אֶרֶץ	לֶחֶם	וְכַרְמִים:
of corn	and wine	a land	of bread	and vineyards
H1715	H8492	H776	H3899	H3754

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