

Isaiah 36:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But if thou say to me, We trust in the LORD our God: is it not he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and said to Judah and to Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar?

Analysis

The accusation that Hezekiah removed the high places (actually an act of faithfulness) is twisted into evidence of God's displeasure. This demonstrates how reforming obedience can be misrepresented as rebellion. The enemy always attempts to redefine righteousness as sin and faithfulness as folly. Hezekiah's reforms (2 Kings 18:4) were covenant faithfulness, not presumption.

Historical Context

Hezekiah's reformation included destroying the bronze serpent Moses made, showing that even God-ordained symbols can become idols. His centralization of worship in Jerusalem followed Deuteronomic law.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Have you experienced obedience to God being criticized or misunderstood by others?
2. How can godly reforms in your life be misrepresented, and how should you respond?

Interlinear Text

בָּטָחָנָנוּ אֱלֹהָיָנוּ יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה
H3588 **But if thou say** H413 H413 **in the LORD** H3068 **our God** H430 **to me We trust** H982

אָתָּה חִזְקִיָּהוּ הָסִירָה
H3808 H1931 H834 **hath taken away** H5493 **Hezekiah** H2396

לִיהוּדָה יְהֹוָה יְהֹוָה
is it not he whose high places H1116 H853 **and whose altars** H4196 **But if thou say** H559 **to Judah** H3063

בְּפִנֵּי יְלִיר וּשְׁלָמָה
and to Jerusalem H3389 H6440 H4196 **and whose altars** H2088 **Ye shall worship** H7812

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 42:5 (Worship): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

1 Corinthians 2:15 (Parallel theme): But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.