

Isaiah 41:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth: thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff.

Analysis

God transforms the worm into a threshing instrument ('morag chadash'—new sharp threshing sledge) with teeth, able to thresh mountains and beat hills to chaff. This dramatic reversal shows God's power to take the weakest and make them instruments of His purposes. The 'newness' suggests fresh empowerment, not human strength.

Historical Context

This promised Israel would not remain helpless victims but would, through God's empowerment, overcome obstacles that seemed as immovable as mountains—returning to rebuild despite opposition.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's pattern of using weak instruments for great purposes encourage you?

2. What 'mountains' in your life need God's transforming power to turn you into His threshing instrument?

Interlinear Text

הִנֵּה	תִּשְׁעִים	לְמַזְבֵּג	שָׁרֵץ	מִזְבֵּחַ	בְּעֵל
H2009	Behold I will make	threshing	sharp	thee a new	instrument having
	H7760	H4173	H2742	H2319	H1167
teeth	thou shalt thresh	the mountains	and beat them small	the hills	
H6374	H1758	H2022	H1854	H1389	
כַּמְתַ	תִּשְׁעִים				
as chaff	Behold I will make				
H4671	H7760				

Additional Cross-References

Micah 4:13 (Parallel theme): Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

Zechariah 4:7 (Parallel theme): Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

Habakkuk 3:12 (Parallel theme): Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger.

Isaiah 21:10 (Parallel theme): O my threshing, and the corn of my floor: that which I have heard of the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have I declared unto you.

Isaiah 28:27 (Parallel theme): For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff, and the cummin with a rod.

Psalms 18:42 (Parallel theme): Then did I beat them small as the dust before the wind: I did cast them out as the dirt in the streets.

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