

# Isaiah 41:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.

## Analysis

The winnowing and whirlwind imagery describes separating grain from chaff—enemies are scattered like chaff while Israel remains. Yet the ultimate result is rejoicing in the LORD and glorying in the Holy One of Israel. Victory produces worship, not pride. The Hebrew 'giyl' (rejoice) and 'halal' (glory/praise) indicate exuberant celebration directed toward God.

## Historical Context

This anticipated the joy of return from exile and victory over opposition. Ezra-Nehemiah records this fulfillment as the returned community celebrated despite continued challenges.

## Related Passages

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

1. How can you ensure victories lead to worship of God rather than self-congratulation?

2. What does it mean to rejoice in the LORD rather than merely rejoicing in changed circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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|                 |                   |                             |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| תְּזַרֵּם       | וְרַעַם           | תְּשַׁאֲמָה                 | וְסַעַרְתָּה      |
| Thou shalt fan  | them and the wind | shall carry them away       | and the whirlwind |
| H2219           | H7307             | H5375                       | H5591             |
| שְׁאַלְתָּהּ    | אָמֵן             | תְּגַלֵּל                   | בְּיַהְוָה        |
| shall scatter   | of Israel         | them and thou shalt rejoice | in the LORD       |
| H6327           | H853              | H1523                       | H3068             |
| בְּקָדְשָׁךְ    | וְשָׁבָא          | לְתַתְּהִלָּל               | וְשָׁבָא          |
| in the Holy One | and shalt glory   |                             |                   |
| H6918           | H3478             | H1984                       |                   |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 51:2** (Parallel theme): And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.

**Jeremiah 15:7** (Parallel theme): And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways.

**Habakkuk 3:18** (References Lord): Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.