

Isaiah 41:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, they are all vanity; their works are nothing: their molten images are wind and confusion.

Analysis

The verdict on false gods is emphatic: 'Behold, they are all vanity' ('aven'—emptiness, evil), 'their works are nothing' ('ephes'), and 'their molten images are wind and confusion' ('tohu'—chaos, same as Genesis 1:2). This comprehensive condemnation reduces idols and their effects to absolute worthlessness and disorder.

Historical Context

This devastating summary of idolatry's futility concludes the trial scene begun in verse 1, with God proving His unique deity and false gods proven empty, preparing for the Servant passages.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing idols as producing only chaos and confusion help identify them?
2. What areas of your life show the 'wind and confusion' resulting from false worship?

Interlinear Text

כָּל־הֵם	אֵין־לָהֶם	אֵין־לָהֶם	מַעֲשֵׂיהֶם	רוּחַ
H2005	H3605			
Behold they are all vanity		are nothing	their works	are wind
		H205	H657	H4639
				H7307
וְהָיָה	נְסִיכָהֶם:			
and confusion	their molten images			
H8414	H5262			

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 5:13 (Parallel theme): And the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them: thus shall it be done unto them.

Isaiah 41:24 (Parallel theme): Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.