

# Isaiah 42:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools.

## Analysis

God's judgment transforms landscape: making waste mountains and hills, drying up herbs, turning rivers to islands, and drying up pools. The Hebrew 'charav' (make waste) depicts devastation. This ecological judgment shows that creation itself responds to God's decrees—nature serves His purposes.

## Historical Context

This describes God's judgment on oppressor nations, whose fruitful land becomes desolate. Conversely, Israel's wilderness becomes fruitful (41:18-19)—complete reversal demonstrating God's justice.

## Related Passages

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

1. How does creation's response to God's word demonstrate His sovereign authority?

2. What does the transformation of landscapes teach about God's power to change circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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אָזַבְּשׁ: אָזַבְּשׁ  
I will make waste mountains and hills all their herbs and I will dry up  
H2717 H2022 H1389 H3605 H6212 H3001

וְשִׁמְתָּתִי וְאָזַבְּשׁ: אָזַבְּשׁ  
and I will make the rivers islands the pools and I will dry up  
H7760 H5104 H339 H98 H3001

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 50:2** (Parallel theme): Wherefore, when I came, was there no man? when I called, was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst.

**Isaiah 44:27** (Parallel theme): That saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers:

**Revelation 20:11** (Parallel theme): And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.