

Isaiah 43:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears.

Analysis

The paradoxical command to 'bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears' describes those with physical capacity but spiritual dysfunction. This continues the indictment of Israel's willful ignorance (42:18-20), yet now they're called forth as witnesses despite their blindness.

Historical Context

This introduces the courtroom scene where blind Israel must nevertheless testify to God's works. Their very existence and history provide evidence for God's uniqueness, despite their spiritual dullness.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God use imperfect witnesses to testify to His perfect works?
2. What does your life testify about God despite your spiritual limitations?

Interlinear Text

הוֹצֵא יָא	עַם	עִוְרֵי	אֵינֵי יָם	יֵשׁ	וְחֵרָשׁ יָם	אֲזֵנֵי יָם
Bring forth	people	the blind	eyes	that have	and the deaf	that have ears
H3318	H5971	H5787	H5869	H3426	H2795	H241

לְמוֹ:
H0

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 6:9 (Parallel theme): And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

Ezekiel 12:2 (Parallel theme): Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house.

Jeremiah 5:21 (Parallel theme): Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not: