

Isaiah 49:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

Analysis

The promise 'They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them' describes comprehensive divine provision for returning pilgrims. The reason: 'he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.' This merges Exodus imagery (manna, water from rock) with Shepherd psalm (Psalm 23), anticipating Jesus as Bread of Life and Living Water.

Historical Context

Return from Babylon through desert required miraculous provision echoing the Exodus. But ultimate fulfillment awaits new creation where 'they shall hunger no more' (Revelation 7:16), showing how earthly redemptions typify final salvation.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What spiritual hunger and thirst has Jesus satisfied in your life?

2. How does God's past provision (leading by springs of water) encourage trust for present needs?

Interlinear Text

ל א	יִרְעָ בּוֹ	וְל א	יִצְמָ אֹו	וְל א	יִכּוּם
H3808	They shall not hunger	H3808	nor thirst	H3808	smite
	H7456		H6770		H5221
	שָׁרָב	וְשֶׁשׁ מִשֶּׁשׁ	כִּי	מִרְחֶמֶם	
	neither shall the heat	nor sun	H3588	them for he that hath mercy	
	H8273	H8121		H7355	
	יְנַהֵג	וְעַל	מִבְּמַיִם	מִי	יְנַהֵלֵם:
	on them shall lead	H5921	them even by the springs	of water	shall he guide
	H5090		H4002	H4325	H5095

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 5:6 (Parallel theme): Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Isaiah 33:16 (Parallel theme): He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

Ezekiel 34:23 (Parallel theme): And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

Isaiah 54:10 (Grace): For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

Jeremiah 31:9 (Parallel theme): They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Isaiah 14:1 (Grace): For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob.

Isaiah 32:2 (Parallel theme): And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Isaiah 35:7 (Parallel theme): And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

Isaiah 40:11 (Parallel theme): He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 4:6 (Parallel theme): And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.