

Isaiah 5:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

Analysis

The consequence of human humbling is divine exaltation: 'the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment.' God's holiness is demonstrated ('sanctified') through righteous judgment, vindicating His character. The parallelism between exaltation and sanctification shows that God's glory and holiness are inseparable—His judgments reveal His holy nature. This anticipates Ezekiel's repeated formula 'they shall know that I am the LORD' through judgment (Ezekiel 6:7), and Romans 9:22-23's teaching that God displays both wrath and mercy for glory's sake.

Historical Context

Israel's exile demonstrated to surrounding nations that Yahweh is holy and just, not impotent. Divine judgment vindicated God's character before watching world.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's judgment serve to sanctify His name and display His holiness?

2. In what ways do we see God exalted through His righteous dealings in history?

Interlinear Text

וְגַבֵּהּ	וְתִּהְבֹּהּ	צָבָא	וְתִּזְבֹּהּ	בְּמִשְׁפָּט	וְקֹדֶד	וְשָׁפָט	וְפָאֵל
shall be exalted	But the LORD	of hosts	in judgment	and God	that is holy		
H1361	H3068	H6635	H4941	H410	H6918		
שְׁתִּינְחַדְתָּ	בְּצִדְקָהּ						
shall be sanctified	in righteousness						
H6942	H6666						

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 46:10 (References God): Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isaiah 12:4 (References Lord): And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

1 Chronicles 29:11 (References Lord): Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

Isaiah 29:23 (Holy): But when he seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify my name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel.

Ezekiel 36:23 (Holy): And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

1 Peter 2:15 (References God): For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

Revelation 3:7 (Holy): And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

Isaiah 8:13 (References Lord): Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Isaiah 33:5 (Righteousness): The LORD is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.

Isaiah 2:17 (References Lord): And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

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