

Isaiah 50:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

Analysis

The warning to those who 'kindle a fire' and 'compass yourselves about with sparks' describes self-reliance - creating own light rather than trusting God. The judgment 'ye shall lie down in sorrow' shows that human-generated solutions lead to misery. This contrasts with verse 10's trust in darkness - those who rest in God's will find peace; those who create own alternatives find sorrow.

Historical Context

Israel's repeated alliances with Egypt/Assyria rather than trusting God illustrate 'kindling fire' - attempting security through human wisdom. Every such attempt ended in judgment. The principle applies to all self-salvation attempts apart from God's provided way.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What 'fires' are you kindling (self-help strategies, worldly solutions) rather than trusting God in darkness?
2. How has self-reliance led to the 'sorrow' this verse warns about, and what would repentant trust look like?

Interlinear Text

כִּלְכֵּם הֵא	קִדְחֵי	אֶשֶׁךְ מִ	מֵאֲזֵרִי
H2005	H3605		
Behold all ye that kindle		a fire	that compass yourselves about
H6919		H784	H247
וּבְזִיקוֹת	לְכֹוֹ	בָּא וִרְ	אֶשֶׁךְ מִ
and in the sparks	H1980	in the light	a fire
H2131		H217	H784
וּבְזִיקוֹת			
and in the sparks			
H2131			
בְּעֵרְתֶּם	מִיָּדִי	זֶה אֶתְּ	לְכֵם
that ye have kindled	This shall ye have of mine hand	H1961	H2063
H1197	H3027		H0
לְמַעַצֵּב הֵא	תִּשְׁכְּבוּן:		
in sorrow	ye shall lie down		
H4620	H7901		

Additional Cross-References

Romans 10:3 (Parallel theme): For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

John 8:24 (Parallel theme): I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

Jonah 2:8 (Parallel theme): They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

