

Isaiah 52:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

Analysis

The command 'Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion' calls Jerusalem from defilement to purity, from weakness to power. The promise 'there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean' depicts permanent holiness - fulfilled ultimately in New Jerusalem where 'nothing that defileth shall enter' (Revelation 21:27). The beautiful garments replace mourning, symbolizing joy after sorrow.

Historical Context

Post-exilic Jerusalem needed purification from Babylonian contamination. But complete fulfillment awaits the glorified church, Christ's pure bride 'without spot or wrinkle' (Ephesians 5:27). The call to 'awake' summons responsive faith to embrace promised restoration.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What spiritual 'beautiful garments' has Christ clothed you with to replace sin's filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6)?
2. How does the promise that nothing unclean will enter the holy city motivate present pursuit of holiness?

Interlinear Text

בָּקְרֵב	לְבָשֵׂר	עַזְיָה	בָּגְדָּאָד
Awake	Awake	put on	thy strength
H5782	H5782	H3847	H5797
O Zion		put on	garments
H6726		H3847	H899
לְאָמֵן	בְּקָרְבָּן	עַד	לְעַמְּדָה
thy beautiful	O Jerusalem	city	the holy
H8597	H3389	H5892	H6944
H3588		H3808	
וְיֻמָּס	יְבָא	עַד	לְעַמְּדָה
for henceforth there shall no more	come	to	into thee the uncircumcised
H3254	H935	H0	H6189
וְטָמֵא			
and the unclean			
H2931			

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 21:27 (Parallel theme): And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Isaiah 51:17 (References Jerusalem): Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

Revelation 21:2 (Holy): And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Zechariah 3:4 (Parallel theme): And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

Isaiah 51:9 (Parallel theme): Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

Isaiah 35:8 (Holy): And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

Isaiah 48:2 (Holy): For they call themselves of the holy city, and stay themselves upon the God of Israel; The LORD of hosts is his name.

Romans 13:14 (Parallel theme): But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Matthew 4:5 (Holy): Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

Nahum 1:15 (Parallel theme): Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.