

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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics 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

עֹרֵי י	עֹרֵי י	לְבָשׁ ין	עֲזֵךְ	צִיּוֹן	לְבָשׁ ין	בְּגָדֵי י
Awake	Awake	put on	thy strength	O Zion	put on	garments
H5782	H5782	H3847	H5797	H6726	H3847	H899
תְּפָאֲרֶתְךָ	יְרוּשָׁלַיִם	עִיר	הַקֹּדֶשׁ	כִּי	לֹא	
thy beautiful	O Jerusalem	city	the holy			
H8597	H3389	H5892	H6944	H3588	H3808	
יוֹסֵף יךְ	יָבֹא	בְּךָ	עֹד	לְ		
for henceforth there shall no more	come					
H3254	H935	H0	H5750			
						עֵר ל
						into thee the uncircumcised
						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.