

Isaiah 55:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Analysis

This verse applies the rain/snow analogy to God's word. 'So shall my word be'—drawing the parallel between precipitation's reliability and Scripture's efficacy. God's word 'goeth forth out of my mouth'—emphasizing divine origin, authority, and intentionality. The promise: it 'shall not return unto me void' (reyqam—empty, without effect, unsuccessful). Instead, it 'shall accomplish that which I please' (chephets—delight, purpose, desire) and 'prosper in the thing whereto I sent it' (sahlach—succeed, accomplish the mission). This guarantees Scripture's effectiveness—every divine promise will be fulfilled, every prophecy accomplished, every command effective for its intended purpose. God's word never fails to achieve what He designed it to accomplish.

Historical Context

Isaiah's prophecies often seemed impossible—exiles returning, Messiah coming, salvation reaching Gentiles. Yet God assured His word would accomplish these purposes, however long they took or unlikely they seemed. New Testament writers saw Isaiah's prophecies fulfilled in Christ, vindicating God's word's reliability. Church history demonstrates Scripture's enduring power—unchanged by cultural shifts, government opposition, or intellectual trends. Countless testimonies confirm God's promises accomplishing His purposes in individual lives, despite delays or obstacles.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's guarantee that His word will accomplish its purpose affect your confidence in praying and claiming Scripture's promises?
2. What specific word or promise from God seems delayed or unlikely in your circumstances, and how does this verse encourage you to keep trusting?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	מִפְּ	יְ	אָשָׁ	רֹ	דְּבָרִ	יְהִי	הַ	כִּ	אֵ
H3808	H6310	H3318	H834	H1697	H1961	H3651			
אָתָּה	עֲשֵׂה	אָמֵן	אָמַן	מִקְּדָם	אֵלָי	בְּ	בְּ	וְ	וְ
H853	H6213	H518	H3588	H7387	H413	H7725			
שְׁלַחְתִּי	אֲשֶׁר	אָשָׁר	וְהִצְלִיל	יְמִינָה	צַדִּיקְתִּי	אֲשֶׁר	אֲשֶׁר	אֲשֶׁר	אֲשֶׁר
H7971	H834	H2654	H6743			H834	H2654	H6743	H834

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 24:35 (Word): Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Isaiah 46:10 (Parallel theme): Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Romans 10:17 (Word): So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

John 6:63 (Word): It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Isaiah 45:23 (Word): I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (Parallel theme): For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (Word): For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

1 Peter 1:23 (Word): Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

James 1:18 (Word): Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Hebrews 6:7 (Parallel theme): For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: