

Isaiah 56:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest.

Analysis

A sudden shift: 'All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest.' This call to predators symbolizes judgment on unfaithful leaders (verses 10-12). Wild animals invading represents the breakdown of protection when shepherds fail. The contrast with inclusion (verses 1-8) is stark.

Historical Context

This may allude to Babylon's invasion or general judgment on covenant unfaithfulness. When spiritual leaders fail, destruction follows. The imagery recalls curses for covenant violation.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What happens when spiritual leadership fails to protect God's people?
2. How does the contrast between inclusion (verses 1-8) and judgment (verses 9-12) relate?

Interlinear Text

פִּתְּחָה וְכֹל לְאָכְלָה אֶת־עַד שָׁדָה פִּתְּחָה וְכֹל לְאָכְלָה אֶת־עַד שָׁדָה

H3605 All ye beasts H7704 of the field H857 come H398 to devour H3605 All ye beasts
H2416 H7704 H857 H398 H2416

בְּעֵרָה:

in the forest

H3293

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 12:9 (Parallel theme): Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org