

Isaiah 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

Analysis

The LORD's sending away of 'men far away' with resulting 'great forsaking in the midst of the land' describes exile's depopulation. This fulfills the prophetic commission (vv. 9-11) that Isaiah's ministry would harden many, resulting in judgment. The phrase 'great forsaking' (Hebrew 'azubah rabbah') depicts massive abandonment—both geographic exile and spiritual desolation. Yet this judgment isn't final; the remnant (v. 13) ensures covenant continuity.

Historical Context

Babylonian exile saw massive deportation, leaving Judah sparsely populated. This 'sending far away' fulfilled prophetic warning while preserving a remnant for eventual restoration.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'sending away' function as both judgment and protective discipline?
2. What comfort exists in knowing that even massive 'forsaking' doesn't nullify covenant promises?

Interlinear Text

רַּמֶּם בְּרַמֶּם וְיַהְיֵה אֵת בְּאֵת מִנְחָה
far away And the LORD H853 men and there be a great forsaking

H7368

H3068

H853

men

וְיַהְיֵה

H7227

פְּנַזְבָּה

H5805

בְּמִצְדָּקָה בְּמִצְדָּקָה
in the midst of the land

H7130

H776

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 4:29 (Parallel theme): The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein.

Deuteronomy 28:64 (References Lord): And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone.