

Isaiah 6:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.

Analysis

Though a tenth remains (the remnant), even this will face further judgment, 'and shall return, and shall be eaten.' The analogy to felled trees (teil tree and oak) whose stump remains introduces hope: 'the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.' The stump produces new growth—from the decimated remnant, God will bring forth His purposes. This 'holy seed' ultimately points to Christ (Isaiah 11:1, the Branch from Jesse's roots).

Historical Context

After Babylon's exile, a remnant returned (Ezra-Nehemiah). From this small group came the lineage preserving Messianic hope, demonstrating God's faithfulness to preserve a remnant through which He accomplishes redemption.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the remnant doctrine comfort you regarding the visible church's current state?
2. In what ways are you part of God's 'holy seed' carrying forward His purposes?

Interlinear Text

וְעַתָּה H5750	בָּהּ H0	עַשְׂרֵי רֵי הַ H6224	וְשָׁבָה H7725	וְהָיְתָה H1961
		But yet in it shall be a tenth	and it shall return	
וְלִבְעֵר H1197	כְּאֵלֶּה H424	וְכַאֲלֹן H437	אֲשֶׁר H834	בְּשֵׁלָם כֵּת H7995
and shall be eaten	as a teil tree	and as an oak		is in them when they cast
מִצְבֹּתָהּ: H4678	זֶרַע H0	קִדְשׁ H6944	מִצְבֹּתָהּ: H4678	
shall be the substance	seed	their leaves so the holy	shall be the substance	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 22:18 (Parallel theme): And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Isaiah 1:9 (Parallel theme): Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Malachi 2:15 (Parallel theme): And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

Ezra 9:2 (Holy): For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass.

Mark 13:20 (Parallel theme): And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

Romans 9:5 (Parallel theme): Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

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