

Isaiah 60:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

Analysis

The prophecy returns to glory: "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary." Lebanon's glory was its magnificent cedars and timber (1 Kings 5:6-10), used in Solomon's temple. The three trees mentioned—berosh (fir/cypress), tidhar (pine/plane), te'ashur (box)—represent Lebanon's finest wood. These will "beautify the place of my sanctuary," meaning God's dwelling place. The verse concludes: "and I will make the place of my feet glorious." God's "footstool" refers to His throne, His dwelling, His presence (Psalm 99:5, 132:7, Lamentations 2:1). From a Reformed perspective, the physical temple typified Christ's body (John 2:19-21) and the church as God's spiritual temple (1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:21-22). The glory isn't primarily architectural but spiritual—God's presence among His people. The New Jerusalem needs no temple because God's presence fills everything (Revelation 21:22). The choicest materials represent the best of creation consecrated to God's glory and believers being living stones in His spiritual temple (1 Peter 2:5).

Historical Context

Solomon's temple incorporated Lebanon's finest cedars (1 Kings 5:6-10, 6:9-18), making it architecturally magnificent. The second temple, though rebuilt, lacked such glory (Ezra 3:12, Haggai 2:3). This prophecy promised restoration of glory, but not primarily through physical building. Jesus is the true temple (John

2:19-21), and believers corporately become God's dwelling through the Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19, Ephesians 2:21-22). The glory isn't cedar but the Shekinah presence of God in Christ dwelling among His people.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Christ fulfill the prophecy of beautifying God's sanctuary?
2. In what sense are believers the 'choice materials' that beautify God's spiritual temple?
3. What does it mean for God to make 'the place of His feet glorious' in the church age?

Interlinear Text

כְּבוֹד	הַלְבָנוֹן	אֶל יְיָ	יָבֹא	בְּרֹאשׁ	תְּדָה רַ
The glory	of Lebanon	H413	shall come	unto thee the fir tree	the pine tree
H3519	H3844		H935	H1265	H8410
וּתְאֵשׁ וּר	יַחְדָּהּ	לְפָאֵר	וּמִקֵּץ	מִקְדָּשִׁי	
and the box	together	to beautify	and I will make the place	of my sanctuary	
H8391	H3162	H6286	H4725	H4720	
וּמִקֵּץ	וּמִקֵּץ	בְּגִלְי	אֶכְבֹּד:		
and I will make the place	of my feet	glorious			
H4725	H7272	H3513			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 35:2 (Glory): It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God.

1 Chronicles 28:2 (Parallel theme): Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: As for me, I had in mine heart to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building:

Psalms 132:7 (Temple): We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

Psalms 96:6 (Temple): Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.