

# Isaiah 65:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

## Analysis

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God promises security and enjoyment: "And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them." This reverses the covenant curses of Deuteronomy 28:30: "Thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof." The covenant blessings promised the opposite (Deuteronomy 28:1-14). Building and inhabiting, planting and eating represent comprehensive security and satisfaction—enjoying the fruits of one's labor without fear of dispossession. From a Reformed perspective, this pictures the security believers have in Christ—our inheritance is certain (1 Peter 1:3-5, Ephesians 1:13-14), we will enjoy what God has prepared (1 Corinthians 2:9), and no enemy can rob us of our eternal reward (Romans 8:31-39). The principle applies both to present sanctification (enjoying fruits of Spirit-empowered obedience) and future glorification (enjoying eternal rewards in new creation).

## Historical Context

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Throughout Israel's history, covenant unfaithfulness brought the curses—enemies destroying what they built, confiscating what they planted (Deuteronomy 28:30, 33, 51, Amos 5:11, Zephaniah 1:13). The exile epitomized this—Babylon destroyed homes and vineyards. The return began reversing this (Nehemiah 5:3-5, 11, Amos 9:14), but complete fulfillment awaits the consummated kingdom. Jesus promised inheritance and abundant life (Matthew 5:5, John 10:10). Believers presently enjoy

spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3) and will eternally enjoy the new creation (Revelation 22:1-5).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does security in Christ parallel the promise of building and inhabiting without fear?
2. What 'fruits' of our spiritual labor will we enjoy in the consummated kingdom?
3. How should certainty of future reward shape present faithfulness in 'building' and 'planting'?

## Interlinear Text

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וְבָנוּ ו	בָּתֵּי יָם	וְיָשְׁבוּ בָּו	וְנִטְעוּ ו	כְּרָמֵי יָם
And they shall build	houses	and inhabit	them and they shall plant	vineyards
H1129	H1004	H3427	H5193	H3754
וְאָכְלוּ פְּרִיָם:				
and eat	the fruit			
H398	H6529			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Amos 9:14** (Parallel theme): And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant

vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

**Isaiah 32:18** (Parallel theme): And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

**Isaiah 37:30** (Parallel theme): And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such as groweth of itself; and the second year that which springeth of the same: and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof.

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