

Isaiah 66:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

Analysis

Universal worship is promised: "And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD." The Hebrew midei-chodesh bechodsho umidei shabbat beshabbato (from new moon in its time, from sabbath in its time) suggests regular, continuous worship—monthly and weekly cycles. "All flesh" (kol-basar) emphasizes comprehensive participation—everyone worships. This is extraordinary: earlier "all flesh" faced judgment (v.16); now "all flesh" worships! The distinction between elect and reprobate is assumed—only the redeemed "all flesh" worship. From a Reformed perspective, this describes the consummated kingdom where all the elect worship God perpetually (Revelation 7:15, 22:3). The new moon and sabbath language uses old covenant worship terminology to describe new covenant reality—continuous, corporate worship of all believers. The regularity (monthly, weekly) suggests ongoing, not merely occasional, worship. This is believers' eternal activity: glorifying and enjoying God forever through worship.

Historical Context

Under the old covenant, new moon and sabbath observances were significant worship times (Numbers 10:10, 28:11-15, Isaiah 1:13). Israelites gathered regularly for worship. This prophecy looked beyond physical Jerusalem and temporal observances to eternal worship in God's presence. The early church gathered weekly (Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2) for worship, continuing the

pattern. Throughout church history, believers have maintained regular corporate worship. Complete fulfillment comes in the consummated kingdom where worship is perpetual (Revelation 4:8, 7:15). The new moon and sabbath references aren't mandating old covenant observances but using familiar language to describe regular, ongoing worship of all believers in the new creation.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of perpetual worship describe the believer's eternal destiny and delight?
2. What does 'all flesh' worshiping indicate about the final distinction between elect and reprobate?
3. How should anticipation of eternal worship shape our present worship priorities and practices?

Interlinear Text

וְיֹאכַל הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּמִזְבֵּחַ בְּמִזְבֵּחַ בְּמִזְבֵּחַ

H1961 And it shall come to pass that from one new moon one new moon

H1767

H2320

H2320

כָּל יְבָא וְבְשָׁבֵת בְּשָׁבֵת בְּשָׁבֵת

And it shall come to pass that from one sabbath one sabbath come

H1767

H7676

H7676

H3605

H935

וְלֹא תַּשְׂתַּחַת כִּי לִפְנֵי אֶת־מֶלֶךְ יְהֹוָה:

shall all flesh to worship before me saith the LORD

H1320

H7812

H6440

H559

H3068

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 46:1 (References Lord): Thus saith the Lord GOD; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the sabbath it shall be opened, and in the day of the new moon it shall be opened.

Psalms 86:9 (Worship): All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

Zechariah 14:16 (Worship): And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Ezekiel 46:6 (Parallel theme): And in the day of the new moon it shall be a young bullock without blemish, and six lambs, and a ram: they shall be without blemish.

Revelation 15:4 (Worship): Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

Psalms 65:2 (Parallel theme): O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

Zechariah 14:14 (Parallel theme): And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance.

John 4:23 (Worship): But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

Malachi 1:11 (References Lord): For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

2 Kings 4:23 (Parallel theme): And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.