

# Isaiah 7:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk that they shall give he shall eat butter: for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land.

## Analysis

This verse describes the desolation following judgment, where the remnant survives on simple pastoral provisions. The 'abundance of milk' suggests a return to pastoral simplicity after destruction, not prosperity. Butter (curds) and honey represent basic sustenance in a depopulated land where agriculture has ceased. From a Reformed perspective, this illustrates the principle that God's judgment purifies His people, reducing them to dependence on His basic provision. The remnant theme recurs throughout Isaiah—God always preserves a faithful few.

## Historical Context

This prophecy concerns the Assyrian invasion of Judah (701 BC). The once-cultivated land would revert to pasture, with so few people remaining that dairy products would be plentiful. Archaeological evidence confirms the devastation Sennacherib's armies brought to Judah's countryside, with 46 fortified cities destroyed. The survivors would live on the most basic foods available in a pastoral economy.

## Related Passages

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's judgment sometimes strip away our comforts to teach us dependence on Him alone?
2. What does the preservation of a remnant teach us about God's faithfulness to His covenant promises?
3. In what ways might simplicity and reduction be blessings in disguise during seasons of trial?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיֹאמֶר בְּ	מִרְבָּחָת	בְּ	עַשׂ וְתָ	בְּ	סְלָלָתָ
H1961	And it shall come to pass for the abundance	H7230	that they shall give	H6213	of milk
					H2461
וְאֵת לְ	סְלָלָתָ	בְּ	וְאֵת לְ	בְּ	תְּבָשָׂלָתָ
he shall eat	butter	H3588	butter	H1706	and honey
H398	H2529		H2529		H398
וְאֵת לְ	בְּ	וְאֵת לְ	בְּ	וְאֵת לְ	בְּ
תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ	תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ	תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ
that is left		that is left		that is left	
H3605		H3605		H3605	
תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ	תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ	תְּבָשָׂלָתָ	בְּ
the land		the land		the land	
H776		H776		H776	
בְּ	אֶרְזָןָה	בְּ	אֶרְזָןָה	בְּ	אֶרְזָןָה
in	the land		in	the land	
H7130			H7130		H7130

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 7:15** (Parallel theme): Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.