

Isaiah 9:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

Analysis

This verse describes the end of warfare through burning battle gear. 'Every battle of the warrior' and 'garments rolled in blood' evoke warfare's violence and horror. Their burning 'for fuel of fire' indicates complete destruction—war implements becoming irrelevant. This prophesies Messiah's peace, when swords become plowshares (Isaiah 2:4). The imagery suggests Christ's kingdom brings true peace not through military victory but through transforming hearts. The burning also hints at judgment—God's wrath consuming all opposition to His reign.

Historical Context

While partially fulfilled in periods of peace following Assyrian threat, the ultimate fulfillment awaits Christ's second coming and eternal kingdom. The early church saw Jesus's first coming as inaugurating this peace by reconciling humanity to God, though full realization awaits His return. Revelation 20-21 depicts final destruction of all war and conflict. The burning of weapons symbolizes complete transformation from war to eternal peace under Messiah's righteous rule.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Christ bring peace both spiritually (reconciliation with God) and ultimately (end of all conflict)?
2. What does the burning of weapons teach about the complete transformation Christ brings?
3. How do we live as peacemakers in the 'already but not yet' of Christ's inaugurated kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁמַל הַבָּא בְּעֵשׂ סָאוֹן סָאֵן כָּל כָּל
H3588 H3605 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise and garments
H5430 H5431 H7494 H8071

אֲשֶׁר מִאָכֶל לְתָה לְשָׁרֶפֶת הַבְּדִמְמָה יְמָמָה מִגּוֹלָל הַ
rolled in blood H1961 but this shall be with burning H8316 and fuel of fire H3980 H784

Additional Cross-References

2 Thessalonians 1:8 (Parallel theme): In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Isaiah 30:33 (Parallel theme): For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

Psalms 46:9 (Parallel theme): He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

Matthew 3:11 (Parallel theme): I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Nahum 3:2 (Parallel theme): The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots.

Joel 2:5 (Parallel theme): Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.