

Jeremiah 32:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.

Analysis

And fields shall be bought in this land—(וְנִקְנַתָּה בָּשָׂדָה בְּאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת) normal commercial transactions resume, reversing desolation. The verb qanah (קָנָה, buy/acquire) is the same used of Jeremiah's purchase (v. 9), now generalized to all returnees. This contradicts the people's despairing assessment: **whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast** (אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם אָמַרְתֶּם שְׁמַמָּה הִיא מִין אָדָם וּבְהַמֶּה).

It is given into the hand of the Chaldeans—(נִתְנַתָּה בְּיָד הַכָּשָׂדִים) present tense describes current reality: Babylonian occupation. Yet God declares future commerce will flourish under conditions that seemed permanently terminal. This demonstrates faith's counter-cultural perspective: seeing restoration in ruins, covenant faithfulness in conquest, divine purpose in disaster.

Historical Context

The phrase 'without man or beast' echoes earlier judgment prophecies (4:25, 9:10, 33:10, 12). Archaeological evidence confirms widespread depopulation of Judah after 586 BC—towns destroyed, economy collapsed. The post-exilic returns under Zerubbabel (538 BC) and Ezra (458 BC) began fulfilling this prophecy, though full restoration awaits eschatological completion.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What situations in your life appear so devastated that restoration seems impossible?
2. How does resumption of 'ordinary' activities (buying land, doing business) reflect God's comprehensive salvation?
3. Why does God often command faith-actions (like Jeremiah's land purchase) before circumstances change?

Interlinear Text

shall be bought	And fields	in this land	H2063	H834	H859
H7069	H7704	H776			
whereof ye say	It is desolate	His land is desolate	H1931	H369	without man or beast
H559	H8077			H120	H929
into the hand	of the Chaldeans	into the hand of the Chaldeans	H3027	H3778	it is given
					H5414

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 32:15 (Parallel theme): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

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