

Jeremiah 48:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed.

Analysis

Moab's problem was ease and complacency - 'settled on his lees' (like wine undisturbed, keeping sediment). Never having experienced exile or defeat, Moab grew stagnant and proud. God's people benefit from trials that disturb complacency and refine character (Rom 5:3-5, James 1:2-4). Constant prosperity often produces spiritual stagnation rather than growth.

Historical Context

Unlike Israel and Judah who experienced conquest and exile, Moab remained relatively undisturbed for centuries. This prosperity bred arrogance and spiritual lethargy.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How has God used trials to prevent you from being 'settled on your lees'?
2. What dangers accompany prolonged periods of ease and prosperity?

Interlinear Text

שָׁאַנַּן hath been at ease H7599	מוֹאָב ב Moab H4124	מִנְעוּרָו יוֹ from his youth H5271	וְשָׁקָט and he hath settled H8252	אֵל הוּא H1931	אֵל H413
וְלֹא שְׁמֵרָו יוֹ on his lees H8105	וְלֹא H3808	הוּבָה קָ and hath not been emptied H7324	מִכֵּלִי from vessel H3627	אֵל H413	מִכֵּלִי from vessel H3627
וּבְגוֹלָה into captivity H1473	לֹא H3808	הָלַךְ neither hath he gone H1980	עַל H5921	כִּי H3651	עָמַד remained H5975
טַעְמוֹ therefore his taste H2940	בּוֹ H0	וּרְיֹחוֹ in him and his scent H7381	לֹא H3808	נִמְרָה: is not changed H4171	

Additional Cross-References

Zephaniah 1:12 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil.

Zechariah 1:15 (Parallel theme): And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

Jeremiah 48:29 (Parallel theme): We have heard the pride of Moab, (he is exceeding proud) his loftiness, and his arrogancy, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart.

Nahum 2:2 (Parallel theme): For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.

Isaiah 24:3 (Parallel theme): The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word.

Isaiah 16:6 (Parallel theme): We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so.

Psalms 123:4 (Parallel theme): Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorning of those that are at ease, and with the contempt of the proud.

Psalms 55:19 (Parallel theme): God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.