

Joel 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

Analysis

And the floors shall be full of wheat (Hebrew *umale'u hagaranoth bar*, אִמְלָאוּ הַגָּרָנוֹת בָּר—*the threshing floors* (*goren*, גָּרֵן) where harvested grain was separated from chaff will overflow with *bar* (בר, grain/wheat). The verb *male* (אִמְלָאֵ, to be full/filled) indicates complete, abundant filling—not partial recovery but overflowing blessing. This reverses 1:10's devastation: "the corn is wasted." What was empty now overflows.

And the fats shall overflow with wine and oil (Hebrew *veheshiqu hayeqavim tirosh veiyitshar*, וְהִשְׁקִוּ הַקְּבִים תִּרְוֹשׁ וַיִּצְחָר—*the vats* (*yeqev*, יְקֵב, wine/oil presses) will overflow. The verb *shaqaq* (שָׁקַק, to overflow/run over) suggests such abundance that containers can't contain it. *Tirosh* (תִּרְוֹשׁ, new wine) and *yitshar* (אַצְחָר, fresh oil) represent joy and prosperity. This fulfills Proverbs 3:10: "So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

The three-fold abundance (wheat, wine, oil) completes the restoration begun in verse 19. These staples represent comprehensive blessing—grain for bread (physical sustenance), wine for celebration (joy), oil for anointing and light (consecration and enlightenment). Together they symbolize total covenant blessing. Jesus multiplied bread and wine at the Last Supper, instituting sacraments pointing to spiritual nourishment. The abundant harvest anticipates the messianic banquet where God "will make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees" (Isaiah 25:6). Ultimately, Revelation 22:1-2 depicts the

New Jerusalem with river of life and tree of life yielding twelve manner of fruits—eternal, inexhaustible abundance.

Historical Context

Ancient threshing floors were communal spaces where harvested grain was winnowed. Farmers would toss grain into the air, allowing wind to blow away chaff while heavier grain fell back. These floors becoming "full" signaled successful harvest requiring community labor and celebration. Wine and oil presses were typically rock-hewn basins where grapes and olives were crushed. Their overflowing indicated bumper crops. These agricultural blessings fulfilled specific covenant promises (Deuteronomy 28:8: "The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto").

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the image of overflowing abundance challenge scarcity mentality and anxiety about provision?
2. What does it mean that God provides not just sufficiency but overflowing blessing—how should this shape generosity?
3. How do wheat, wine, and oil as symbols of comprehensive blessing point to Christ as bread of life, true vine, and anointed one?

Interlinear Text

תִּיר וְשִׁקְבַּע יְמֵינֶךָ וְמִלְאָה
shall be full And the floors of wheat shall overflow and the fats with wine

H4390

H1637

H1250

H7783

H3342

H8492

וְאֵץ־בָּרָר:

and oil

H3323

Additional Cross-References

Amos 9:13 (Parallel theme): Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

Malachi 3:10 (Parallel theme): Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Joel 3:18 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

Joel 3:13 (Parallel theme): Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

Leviticus 26:10 (Parallel theme): And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new.