

Numbers 24:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted.

Analysis

Balaam prophesies: 'his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted.' This Messianic prophecy points beyond immediate context to Israel's ultimate King. 'Agag' was Amalekite royal title (like Pharaoh for Egypt), representing Israel's enemies. The promise that Israel's king would surpass all enemy kings finds partial fulfillment in David and Solomon but ultimate fulfillment in Christ, the King of kings (Rev 19:16). The 'exalted kingdom' prophesies Christ's eternal reign (Dan 2:44, Luke 1:32-33). Even unwilling prophet Balaam declared Messiah's supremacy over all opposition.

Historical Context

This oracle came during Balaam's third blessing from Peor's top (v.2). While some interpret 'Agag' as generic reference to Amalekite kings, 1 Samuel 15:8 mentions a specific Agag defeated by Saul centuries later, suggesting this was prophetic. Israel's kingdom under David and Solomon did exceed surrounding nations in power and glory. However, the prophecy's full meaning awaits Christ's millennial kingdom when He rules all nations with iron rod (Ps 2:9, Rev 19:15). The prophecy encouraged Israel that despite current weakness (still wilderness wanderers), their future kingdom would dominate. This principle continues - Christ's kingdom seems weak now but will be universally acknowledged.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. Do you live with confidence that Christ's kingdom will ultimately triumph over all opposition, despite current apparent weakness?
2. How does knowing Christ as King of kings affect your perspective on earthly powers and their opposition to God's people?

Interlinear Text

يְلַل	בְּמַעַן	מִקְלֵת	יִרְאָה	בְּמַעַן	יְמִינָה
He shall pour	the water	of his buckets	and his seed	the water	shall be in many
H5140	H4325	H1805	H2233	H4325	H7227
מֵגַן	מֶלֶךְ	וְתַבִּשׁ	מֶלֶכְתָּה		
shall be higher	than Agag	and his king	shall be exalted	and his kingdom	
H7311	H90	H4428	H5375	H4438	

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 14:2 (Kingdom): And David perceived that the LORD had confirmed him king over Israel, for his kingdom was lifted up on high, because of his people Israel.

2 Samuel 5:12 (Kingdom): And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.

Revelation 17:1 (Parallel theme): And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

Jeremiah 51:13 (Parallel theme): O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness.

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