

Proverbs 2:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.

Analysis

The upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect (temimim - complete, blameless) shall remain in it. This verse echoes covenant promises where faithfulness resulted in secure possession of the promised land. While primarily temporal for Israel, the principle extends spiritually - covenant faithfulness brings secure inheritance. Ultimately fulfilled in believers' eternal inheritance, the new heaven and earth where righteousness dwells (2 Pet 3:13).

Historical Context

Directly recalls Deuteronomic covenant - obedience meant remaining in the land, disobedience meant exile. Written during Solomon's reign when the promise was fulfilled, yet warning that continued possession depended on continued faithfulness.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does your covenant faithfulness relate to confidence in your eternal inheritance?
2. In what ways are you currently 'dwelling' securely versus anxiously, and how does righteousness affect this?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	יֵשֶׁר יִם	יִשְׁכְּנוּ	אֶרֶץ	וּתְמִימֵי יִם	יָו תֵּרוּ	בָּהּ:
H3588	For the upright	shall dwell	in the land	and the perfect	shall remain	H0
	H3477	H7931	H776	H8549	H3498	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 37:29 (Parallel theme): The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

Psalms 37:9 (Parallel theme): For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

Psalms 84:11 (Parallel theme): For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Proverbs 10:30 (Parallel theme): The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

Job 42:12 (Parallel theme): So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

Psalms 37:3 (Parallel theme): Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Psalms 37:22 (Parallel theme): For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.

Psalms 37:11 (Parallel theme): But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

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