

Proverbs 2:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

Analysis

Conversely, the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and transgressors shall be rooted out. The agricultural imagery of uprooting emphasizes total, violent removal. This is covenant curse - those who violate God's law forfeit His blessings. The principle applies temporally and eternally - persistent wickedness results in destruction. The verse warns that evil, however temporarily prosperous, has no lasting future.

Historical Context

Echoes covenant curses in Deuteronomy 28-30 where rebellion resulted in exile from the land. Israel's history repeatedly confirmed this warning through Assyrian and Babylonian captivities.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the certainty of the wicked's ultimate removal affect your response to present injustice?
2. What sins in your life need to be 'uprooted' before they result in your spiritual destruction?

Interlinear Text

וְרָשָׁעִים	מֵאֶרֶץ	יִכָּרְתוּ	וּבֹגְדֵי יָם
But the wicked	from the earth	shall be cut off	and the transgressors
H7563	H776	H3772	H898
וְיִסָּח	מִמְּנָה:		
shall be rooted out	H4480		
H5255			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 52:5 (Parallel theme): God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah.

Psalms 37:28 (Evil): For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

Deuteronomy 7:22 (Parallel theme): And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.

Psalms 145:20 (Evil): The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

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