

Proverbs 27:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The hay appeareth, and the tender grass sheweth itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered.

Analysis

The hay appeareth, and the tender grass sheweth itself (גָּלָה חֲצִיר וְנִרְאָה-דֶּשֶׁה, galah chatzir ve'nir'ah-deshe)—the agricultural cycle continues: חֲצִיר (chatzir, 'grass, hay') is revealed (גָּלָה, galah, 'to uncover, disclose') as mature growth, while אֶשְׁוֹ (deshe, 'tender grass, vegetation') appears as new growth.

And herbs of the mountains are gathered (וְנִאֲסְפוּ עֲשֻׁבוֹת הָרִים, ve'ne'esfu issvot harim)—the verb אָסַף (asaf, 'to gather, collect') suggests intentional harvesting. This verse continues the stewardship theme (verses 23-27): nature's reliable cycles reward the diligent manager. God's creation operates by faithful rhythms (Genesis 8:22); human responsibility is to work in harmony with divine providence, neither presuming on tomorrow nor despising today's provision.

Historical Context

Ancient Israel's agricultural calendar structured life around planting (October-November), winter rains (December-February), spring harvest (March-May), and summer drought (June-September). Mountain herbs provided supplemental fodder during dry seasons. The proverb assumes intimate knowledge of these cycles—wisdom lost in modern urbanization.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How aware are you of the 'seasons' and rhythms God has established in your life and work?
2. Are you harvesting opportunities when they appear, or letting them pass unharvested?
3. What does patient attention to natural cycles teach about trusting God's provision?

Interlinear Text

הָאֵפֶאֶרֶת	הַחֵצִיר	וְהַנֶּחֱאֵה	דִּשְׁא	וְהַנֶּאֱסָפוּ	עִשְׂבֹת וְחֵבֶרֶת
appeareth	The hay	sheweth	and the tender grass	are gathered	itself and herbs
H1540	H2682	H7200	H1877	H622	H6212

הַהָרִים:

of the mountains

H2022

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 10:5 (Parallel theme): He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.

Psalms 104:14 (Parallel theme): He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;