

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 (גָּלַה חֲצִיר וְנִירָא הַדְשֵׁה) — the agricultural cycle continues: חֲצִיר (chatzir, 'grass, hay') is revealed (גָּלַה, galah, 'to uncover, disclose') as mature growth, while **herbs of the mountains are gathered** (דְשֵׁה, deshe, 'tender grass, vegetation') appears as new growth.

And herbs of the mountains are gathered (וְתִאָסְפוּ עַשְׂבֹת הַרִּים) — the verb אָסָף (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

עָשָׂב וֹתֶן נָאָסֶג 1
appeareth The hay sheweth and the tender grass are gathered itself and herbs
H1540 H2682 H7200 H1877 H622 H6212

בְּרִים:

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;