

Psalms 107:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may
prepare a city for habitation;

Analysis

This verse describes God's purpose in restoration. 'And there he maketh the hungry to dwell' shows God places people in restored land. 'The hungry' are those in need, presumably exiles returning to desolation. 'That they may prepare a city for habitation' indicates settlement and civilization. 'Prepare' (kun, כִּן) means to establish, make firm, or found. God restores land and settles people so they can build sustainable communities. This demonstrates God's redemptive pattern: He doesn't merely save individuals but restores communities and provides place for covenant people to dwell. Salvation includes physical dwelling, not just spiritual redemption.

Historical Context

Returning exiles resettled Judah, rebuilding Jerusalem and surrounding cities (Ezra, Nehemiah). God didn't merely forgive sin but restored their homeland, enabling community life. This pattern extends to the church—God saves into community (1 Peter 2:9-10), not isolation. Ultimately, the 'city for habitation' is New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2-3), where God dwells with His people eternally. Salvation's goal is dwelling with God in secure, permanent community.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does salvation include community dwelling, not just individual redemption?
2. What does resettlement and city-building teach about God's comprehensive redemption?
3. How is the church the current expression of God settling people in covenant community?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּשְׁבוּ	שָׁם	וְהָיָה	וְהָיָה	וְהָיָה	וְהָיָה
to dwell	H8033	And there he maketh the hungry	that they may prepare	a city	
H3427		H7457	H3559	H5892	
מִשְׁכָּן:					
for habitation					
H4186					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 107:7 (Parallel theme): And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.

Luke 1:53 (Parallel theme): He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

Acts 17:26 (Parallel theme): And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

Psalms 146:7 (Parallel theme): Which executeth judgment for the oppressed:
which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners:

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