

Psalm 37:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Analysis

After prohibitions (v.

1. and promises (v.
2. , verse 3 gives positive commands: 'Trust' and 'do good.' Trust (Hebrew 'batach') means confident reliance and security in God, while doing good demonstrates that trust through obedience.

The promises—dwelling in the land and being 'fed' (literally 'shepherded')—connect to covenant blessings (Deuteronomy 28). The word 'verily' (Hebrew 'emunah,' faithfulness) suggests certainty: God's faithfulness guarantees provision for those trusting Him. This counters the temptation to secure provision through wicked means.

Historical Context

Land possession was central to Israel's covenant identity. Being fed/shepherded recalls God's provision during wilderness wanderings and anticipates ongoing care in the promised land.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does actively doing good demonstrate your trust in God's provision?
2. What does it mean to be 'fed' or 'shepherded' by God in your daily life?

Interlinear Text

בְּתֻךְ	בְּיְהִיא	וְעֹשֶׂה	וְבָרֵךְ	שְׁכַנֵּ	בְּאָזְןָ
Trust	in the LORD	and do	good	so shalt thou dwell	in the land
H982	H3068	H6213	H2896	H7931	H776
וְרָעֵךְ	אַמְוֹתָה:				
thou shalt be fed	and verily				
H7462	H530				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 62:8 (Faith): Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

Luke 22:35 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.

Psalms 4:5 (Faith): Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

Psalms 26:1 (Faith): Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.

Deuteronomy 30:20 (References Lord): That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Isaiah 50:10 (Faith): Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Psalms 33:19 (Parallel theme): To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Genesis 26:2 (References Lord): And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

1 Samuel 26:19 (References Lord): Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods.

Isaiah 40:11 (Parallel theme): He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

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