

Psalm 65:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

Analysis

Pastures 'clothed' with flocks and valleys 'covered' with corn depicts creation adorned in productivity. The final image of creation shouting and singing demonstrates that nature itself praises God through fulfilling its purpose. This anticipates Romans 8:19-22 where creation groans awaiting redemption, and Psalm 96:11-12 where trees and fields rejoice.

Historical Context

The imagery draws on Israel's landscape of pastoral hills (sheep) and agricultural valleys (grain). This comprehensive picture—animal husbandry and agriculture—represents total economic life depending on God's blessing.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does creation's 'shouting and singing' through productivity inform human worship?

2. What does nature fulfilling its purpose teach about your vocation's relation to God's glory?

Interlinear Text

לְבָשׂ	אֶת	יְמִין	בְּצִדְקָה	בְּעֵמֶק	יְמִינָה	בְּעֵמֶק	בְּרִאָה
are clothed	The pastures	with flocks	the valleys	also are covered over	with corn		
H3847	H3733	H6629	H6010	H5848	H1250		
וְ תְּרוּעָעָה ! אַף יְשִׁירָה : they shout for joy they also sing							
H7321	H637	H7891					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 55:12 (Sin): For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Acts 14:17 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

Isaiah 44:23 (Sin): Sing, O ye heavens; for the LORD hath done it: shout, ye lower parts of the earth: break forth into singing, ye mountains, O forest, and every tree therein: for the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and glorified himself in Israel.

Isaiah 52:9 (Sin): Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

Isaiah 35:10 (Parallel theme): And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 30:23 (Parallel theme): Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous: in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures.

Psalms 72:16 (Parallel theme): There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

Psalms 144:13 (Parallel theme): That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:

Jeremiah 48:33 (Parallel theme): And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

Zechariah 9:17 (Parallel theme): For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty! corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the maids.