

Psalm 81:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

Analysis

God promises abundance: "He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee" (Hebrew vaya-akhilehum me-chelev chittah u-mi-tzur d-vash asbi-ekha). "Finest wheat" represents choicest provision. "Honey from rock" recalls wilderness miracles when God provided water from rock (Exodus 17:6) and describes extravagant blessing—sweet abundance from impossible sources. The verse mourns what could have been if Israel obeyed. Disobedience forfeits blessing.

Historical Context

Deuteronomy 32:13-14 promised such provision if Israel obeyed: "He made him ride on the high places...and he ate...honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock." The contrast between promise and reality is tragic—obedience yields abundance, disobedience brings leanness (Psalm 106:15). Jesus offers Himself as true bread from heaven (John 6:35), providing ultimate satisfaction.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What blessings might you be forfeiting through partial obedience or persistent disobedience?
2. How does God providing "honey from rock" (impossible abundance) display His generous character?
3. How does Christ as the bread of life and water of life fulfill and surpass these promises of satisfaction?

Interlinear Text

וְאִכְלָהוּ	מִן־לֵב	מִן־הַ	חֶטֶף־הַ	מִצְרָאָה־
He should have fed	them also with the finest	of the wheat	out of the rock	
H398	H2459	H2406		H6697
דְבַשׁ	אֲשֶׁר־			
and with honey	should I have satisfied			
H1706	H7646			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 147:14 (Parallel theme): He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.

Joel 2:24 (Parallel theme): And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

Judges 14:18 (Parallel theme): And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What is sweeter than honey? and what is stronger than a lion? And he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle.

Job 29:6 (Parallel theme): When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil;

