

Psalms 94:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.

Analysis

For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance (כִּי לֹא־יַטֵּשׁ יְהוָה עַמּוֹ וְנִחַלְתּוֹ לֹא יַעֲזֹב)—The double negative intensifies covenant assurance. Natash (cast off/abandon) and azav (forsake/leave) together form an emphatic promise. Nachalah (inheritance) casts Israel not merely as God's possession but His treasured portion.

Paul quotes this in Romans 11:1-2 as proof God hasn't rejected ethnic Israel despite Christ's rejection. The psalmist's confidence rests not on Israel's faithfulness but Yahweh's covenant character—His reputation is bound to His people. Hebrews 13:5 applies this promise to all believers: 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.'

Historical Context

This verse addresses exile-level despair when it appeared Yahweh had abandoned His promises. The Babylonian captivity, destruction of the temple, and loss of land seemed to contradict God's covenant with Abraham and David. The psalm reasserts theological truth against emotional perception.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. When have circumstances made you feel forsaken—and how do covenant promises speak louder than feelings?
2. How does being God's 'inheritance' change how you view your identity and security?
3. What would it look like to trust God's faithfulness when His people appear scattered and defeated?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יִטֹּשׁ	יְהוָה	עַם	וְנַחֲלָתוֹ	לֹא
H3588	H3808				H3808
	will not cast off	For the LORD	his people	his inheritance	
	H5203	H3068	H5971	H5159	
יִעָזֹב:					
neither will he forsake					
H5800					

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 12:22 (References Lord): For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.

Psalms 37:28 (References Lord): For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

Deuteronomy 32:9 (References Lord): For the LORD'S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.

Hebrews 13:5 (Parallel theme): Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Ephesians 1:18 (Parallel theme): The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

Romans 8:30 (Parallel theme): Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Psalms 34:12 (Parallel theme): What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

Jeremiah 10:16 (References Lord): The portion of Jacob is not like them: for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: The LORD of hosts is his name.

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