

Zephaniah 3:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.

Analysis

Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee (hineni oseh et-kol-me'annayikh)—'Undo' (oseh) means actively deal with, judge, or destroy. God will reverse the oppressor-oppressed dynamic, settling accounts with those who afflicted His people.

And I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out (ve'hoshi'ah et-hatsolea'ah ve'hanidachah aqabets)—'Her that halteth' (tsolea'ah) means limping, injured, helpless—Micah 4:6-7 uses identical language. 'Driven out' (nidachah) describes forcible exile. God specializes in redeeming the helpless (1 Corinthians 1:27-28).

And I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame—A complete reversal: from shame to praise, from disgrace to fame (shem u'tehillah). This anticipates Israel's eschatological exaltation (Isaiah 60:15, 62:7, Zechariah 8:13, 23).

Historical Context

Jews experienced contempt in Babylonian and later diasporas. However, under Persian rule, Esther records Jewish honor (Esther 8:15-17, 9:3-4). Ultimate

fulfillment awaits the Messiah's kingdom, when redeemed Israel is honored globally. The church's spread—grafting Gentiles into Israel's olive tree (Romans 11:17)—begins this reversal.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's promise to 'undo' your afflicters give hope when justice seems delayed?
2. What does it mean that God saves 'her that halteth'—those who limp spiritually, stumbling in weakness?
3. Where have you experienced shame, and how does God's promise to give 'praise and fame' reshape your perspective?

Interlinear Text

פֶּה יָא בְּעֵת מַעֲבֵד יְהִי כָּל עַשׂ הַתְּבִיב
H2005 I will undo H853 H3605 all that afflict H1931
H6213 H6031 H6256

אַקְרֵב יְהִי כָּל עַשׂ הַתְּבִיב וְהַשְׁעָתִת
and gather H6908 H6256 H5080 H6760 H853
thee and I will save H3467

בְּכָל וְלִשְׁמָתִים לְתַהַל הַתְּבִיב
in every land H776 H3605 H8034 H7760 H8416
and I will get them praise and fame

בְּשִׁפְתָּם:
where they have been put to shame
H1322

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 60:14 (Parallel theme): The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Jeremiah 30:16 (Parallel theme): Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey.

Zephaniah 3:15 (Parallel theme): The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.

Micah 7:10 (Parallel theme): Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the LORD thy God? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

Ezekiel 34:16 (Parallel theme): I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

Isaiah 61:7 (Parallel theme): For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.

Jeremiah 33:9 (Resurrection): And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.

Hebrews 12:13 (Parallel theme): And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

Isaiah 60:18 (Salvation): Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

Ezekiel 39:26 (Parallel theme): After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid.

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