

Amos 6:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the LORD the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness.

Analysis

פִּי הָנָנוּ (ki hin'ni meikim aleichem beit Yisrael goy)—God personally raises up (מֵקִים, meikim) the enemy nation (גּוֹי, goy). **Saith the LORD the God of hosts** confirms divine authority. **And they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness (וְלֹצְאֹו אֲתֶכֶם מִלְבָאָה חָמָת עַד־נָחָל)**—the enemy will oppress (לָחַץ, lachatz) Israel throughout their entire territory, from northern border (Lebo-Hamath) to southern (the Arabah river/wadi).

This directly counters verse 13's boast about taking 'horns' by their own strength. The same territory they conquered will be reconquered—by a nation God Himself raises against them. Human military might collapses before divine judgment. Assyria fulfilled this prophecy, but ultimately God sovereignly controls all nations for His purposes (Isaiah 10:5-19).

Historical Context

Tiglath-Pileser III began Assyrian incursions in 734 BC, culminating in Samaria's fall in 722 BC. The Assyrians conquered exactly the territory Jeroboam II had

expanded—demonstrating that God giveth and God taketh away. Israel's boasted military victories became meaningless when God withdrew protection.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing God's sovereignty over nations—raising up and bringing down—humble national pride?
2. What does it mean that God uses pagan nations as instruments of judgment against His own people?
3. How should Christians respond to national decline or military defeat—as random events or potential divine discipline?

Interlinear Text

נָאָם	וְשָׁרָא	לְ	בְּ	יִתְּ	עַלְיָךְ	מִ	הַנּוּן	כִּי
H3588	H2005	But behold I will raise up	H6965	H5921	O house	H1004	of Israel	saith
the LORD	the God	of hosts	against you a nation	H1471	and they shall afflict	H3905		
H3068	H430	H6635						
אֶתְתָּכְךָ	מִלְבָב	וְאַ	תִּסְמַח	עַד	נַּעֲמָן	בְּ	הַר	
H853	you from the	entering in	of Hemath	H5704	unto the river	H2574	H5158	
		H935						
בְּאֶרֶבֶתְּהָ								
of the wilderness								
H6160								

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 8:65 (References God): And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

2 Kings 14:25 (References God): He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gath-hepher.