

Daniel 9:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

Analysis

Daniel acknowledges comprehensive rebellion: 'Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice.' The word 'all' indicts both northern and southern kingdoms—comprehensive national failure. 'Transgressed' (עָבַר/avar, crossed over) suggests deliberate boundary violation; 'departing' indicates intentional turning away; 'that they might not obey' reveals willful disobedience. Then Daniel connects present suffering to covenantal curse: 'therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.' The exile fulfilled Deuteronomy 28-30's covenant curses—foreign conquest, land loss, temple destruction, national scattering. Daniel recognizes this causal connection: covenant violation brought covenant curse. This demonstrates covenantal theology: God's promises include both blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience; He keeps both aspects faithfully.

Historical Context

Moses explicitly warned that covenant violation would bring curse—enemy conquest, land exile, temple destruction (Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28-30). These weren't arbitrary punishments but covenant stipulations Israel accepted at Sinai.

The Babylonian exile precisely fulfilled these warnings: Jerusalem destroyed, temple razed, people exiled, land given to others. Daniel's prayer recognizes this covenantal framework: the exile wasn't random catastrophe but predicted, just consequence of covenant breaking. Yet the same passages promising curse also promised restoration upon repentance (Deuteronomy 30:1-10), giving Daniel hope that confession and intercession might move God to fulfill restoration promises. Church history shows similar patterns: persistent sin brings divine discipline; genuine repentance opens possibility of restoration.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing consequences as covenant curses rather than random misfortune affect our response to suffering?
2. What does God's faithfulness to both blessing and curse aspects of His covenant teach about His character?
3. Why is understanding the covenantal basis for judgment crucial to proper confession?

Interlinear Text

וְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעָבְרוּ אֶת בְּתוּכַת וְסֹר
H3605 **Yea all Israel** **have transgressed** H853 **in the law** **even by departing**
H3478 H5674 H8451 H5493

עַל יָדוֹ וַתִּתֵּן ה' בְּקוֹלָהּ שִׁם וְעַל לְבַלְתָּ י
H1115 **that they might not obey** **thy voice** **is poured** H5921
H8085 H6963 H5413

בְּתוּכַת כְּתוּבָה אֲשֶׁר רַ וְהַשְׁבַּע הָאֵל הַ
H834 **that is written** **in the law**
H3789 H8451
therefore the curse **upon us and the oath**
H423 H7621

לֹא: חָטָא אֲנוּ כִּי הָאֵלֹהִים יִם עֶבֶד מֹשֶׁה הַ
H4872 **of Moses** **the servant** **of God** H3588 **because we have sinned** H0
H5650 H430 H2398