

Deuteronomy 28:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume.

Analysis

All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume. This verse summarizes and intensifies verse 38's locust curse—now all trees and all fruit face consumption. The Hebrew *tsalsal* (likely whirring locust) emphasizes the relentless, comprehensive devastation. Nothing green escapes—total agricultural collapse follows covenant violation.

Joel 2:25 promises restoration for "the years that the locust hath eaten," but only after repentance. Until then, comprehensive judgment matches comprehensive disobedience. God's covenant demands total obedience; partial compliance brings total devastation.

Historical Context

Ancient economies were 80-90% agricultural. Total crop failure meant famine, economic collapse, social breakdown, and vulnerability to conquest. The comprehensive nature of this curse left no escape route—every economic sector faces divine judgment when covenant is broken.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What does comprehensive agricultural devastation teach about the totality of judgment for covenant violation?
2. How does Joel's promise of restoring "years the locust has eaten" offer hope even under this curse?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	עֵצֶיךָ	וּפְרִי	אֲדָמָתְךָ	יִיכָרְשׁ	הַצִּלְצָל:
H3605	All thy trees H6086	and fruit H6529	of thy land H127	consume H3423	shall the locust H6767

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