

Deuteronomy 29:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:

Analysis

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book—the Hebrew charah 'af YHWH ("the anger of the LORD burned") uses visceral language for God's judicial response to covenant violation. Qelalah ("curses") refers back to the covenant sanctions in Deuteronomy 28:15-68, not arbitrary divine wrath but covenantal consequences Israel agreed to at Sinai and Moab.

The phrase **written in this book** establishes the written Torah as binding covenant document. Unlike ancient Near Eastern treaties where kings could arbitrarily punish vassals, Israel's judgment came through stipulated, publically known sanctions. The exile (fulfilled in 722 BC for the Northern Kingdom, 586 BC for Judah) wasn't divine caprice but the execution of treaty curses for breaking brit (covenant). This demonstrates God's justice and faithfulness—He keeps His word in both blessing and judgment.

Historical Context

Written circa 1406 BC but prophetically describing the Babylonian exile 800 years later. Deuteronomy 29-30 constitutes the Palestinian Covenant, addressing Israel's future in the land. Moses speaks in the plains of Moab to the second generation, warning them of consequences their children and grandchildren would experience. The "anger kindled" language parallels ancient Near Eastern suzerain-vassal treaties where covenant breaking triggered military invasion and deportation.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does understanding God's judgments as covenant consequences (not arbitrary punishment) shape your view of divine justice?
2. What 'written warnings' in Scripture do you need to take more seriously in your own life?

Interlinear Text

לְבָבְךָ יְאָהָבְךָ וְלִפְנֵיךָ תִּפְרֹר
was kindled And the anger of the LORD against this land H1931 to bring
H2734 H639 H3068 H776 H935

בָּזָה: בְּסַפְרָךְ כָּלְכָלְךָ הַכְּתָבוּבָךָ הַכְּתָבוּבָךָ הַכְּתָבוּבָךָ הַכְּתָבוּבָךָ הַכְּתָבוּבָךָ
H5921 H853 H3605 upon it all the curses that are written in this book H2088
H7045 H3789 H5612

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