

Ezekiel 15:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, when it was whole, it was meet for no work: how much less shall it be meet yet for any work, when the fire hath devoured it, and it is burned?

Analysis

The logical progression is devastating: if vine wood was worthless when whole, partial destruction makes it completely useless. This refutes any hope that Jerusalem's partial judgment would leave her viable. The argument moves from less to greater, a common prophetic technique (qal wahomer in Hebrew logic).

Historical Context

After 597 BC, Jerusalem's population, economy, and military were significantly weakened. Yet King Zedekiah foolishly rebelled against Babylon, bringing final devastation in 586 BC.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How can you learn from God's discipline rather than hardening your heart through partial judgments?

2. What does genuine repentance look like in response to God's corrective measures in your life?

Interlinear Text

בָּהִיאָת וְ הַנִּגְעָשׁ	תָּמִימָה	לְאַלְפִּים	הַנִּגְעָשׁ
H2009	H1961	Behold when it was whole	H3808
		H8549	how much less shall it be meet
לִמְלָאָה:	כִּי אָרֶב	אָשָׁא	תִּמְלָאָה:
for no work	H637	H3588	when the fire hath devoured it and it is burned
H4399		H784	H398
			H2787
הַנִּגְעָשׁ	עַד	לִמְלָאָה:	for no work
how much less shall it be meet	H6213	H5750	H4399

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