

# Ezekiel 21:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter: should we then make mirth? it contemneth the rod of my son, as every tree.

## Analysis

**"It is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter: should we then make mirth? it contemneth the rod of my son, as every tree."** The sword's purpose is explicit—"sore slaughter" (tevach tebach, תְּבָחַת), emphatic intensification meaning massive killing. "Should we then make mirth?" (o nasis, שָׁלַׁשׁ אִי) suggests some were celebrating despite warnings—tragic denial of imminent danger. The obscure phrase about "rod of my son" likely refers to Judah's scepter (Genesis 49:10) being despised—royal authority rejected, making judgment inevitable.

## Historical Context

Despite Ezekiel's repeated warnings, many exiles and Jerusalem residents continued normal life, celebrating festivals, conducting business, presuming safety. This denial persisted until Babylon's siege made judgment undeniable. The prophetic question 'should we make mirth?' indicts those celebrating when they should be repenting, revealing human capacity for self-deception even facing clear warnings.

## Related Passages

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does 'making mirth' despite warnings illustrate spiritual denial and hardness?
2. What does the sharpened sword's purpose (slaughter) teach about judgment's terrible reality?
3. In what ways do people today celebrate or conduct business-as-usual despite clear biblical warnings?

## Interlinear Text

---

לְהַקְרִיב לְמַעַן טָבַע בַּחַד הַוּמֶד הַמְעִן

H4616 to make a sore H2874 H2873 H4616 H1961 H0

slaughter

H2300

It is sharpened

בְּנֵי שָׁבֵט נְשָׁיִשׁ בְּנֵי נְשָׁיִשׁ

that it may glitter the rod of my son

H1300 H4803 H176 H7797 H7626 H1121

H2874 H2873 H4616 H1961 H0

כָּל מִאָסָת עַזְּ:

it contemneth as every tree

H3605 H6086

H3988

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Ezekiel 20:47** (Parallel theme): And say to the forest of the south, Hear the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein.

