

Ezekiel 21:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Shall I cause it to return into his sheath? I will judge thee in the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy nativity.

Analysis

Shall I cause it to return into his sheath?—A rhetorical question expecting 'No.' Once God's sword of judgment is drawn (v. 28), it will not be sheathed until the sentence is fully executed. This contrasts with potential repentance scenarios elsewhere (Jeremiah 18:7-8).

I will judge thee in the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy nativity—Ammon would not escape by fleeing; judgment would find them in their homeland east of Jordan. The Hebrew מִקְרֹותִיךְ (mēkôrōtayik, 'origins/nativity') and מִלְדָתֶךָ (môladetêk, 'birthplace') emphasize that their ancestral land would become their graveyard. God judges nations where they sinned, removing any illusion of sanctuary. This principle appears throughout Scripture: judgment comes to the sinner's own territory (Obadiah 15-16).

Historical Context

Ammon's territory was roughly modern-day Amman, Jordan. After Nebuchadnezzar's 582 BC conquest, Ammonite identity largely disappeared from history. Archaeological evidence shows massive destruction of Ammonite cities in the early 6th century BC, confirming Ezekiel's prophecy.

Related Passages

[John 15:13 — Greatest form of love](#)

Study Questions

1. What does God's refusal to 'sheath the sword' teach about the certainty of judgment?
2. How does judging nations 'in their own land' demonstrate God's omnipresence?
3. Are there sins or situations you're trying to escape rather than face before God?

Interlinear Text

הַשׁ בָּ	אֵל	תַּשְׁרֵת	בָּמֶקְםָה	אֲשֶׁר
Shall I cause it to return	H413	into his sheath	thee in the place	H834
	H7725		H4725	
נָבַרְתָּ אֶת	בָּאָרֶץ	מִכְרֹותֶת יְהִי	אֲשֶׁר ט	אַתָּה:
where thou wast created	in the land	of thy nativity	I will judge	H853
	H1254		H4351	
			H8199	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 15:14 (Judgment): And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

Ezekiel 16:38 (Judgment): And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will give thee blood in fury and jealousy.