

Ezekiel 21:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee, I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath, and deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, and skilful to destroy.

Analysis

I will pour out mine indignation upon thee—The Hebrew זַמִּינָה (za'mîn, 'indignation/wrath') describes God's burning anger at persistent covenant violation. The 'pouring out' (שָׁפַךְ, shâphak) metaphor suggests overwhelming, inescapable judgment like a flood.

I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath—God Himself becomes the bellows (פָּעַח, pûah, 'to blow/breathe'), intensifying judgment like a blacksmith fans flames. **And deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, and skilful to destroy**—The Babylonians are described as בָּעֲרִים (bô'ärîm, 'brutish/burning'), and חֲרַשִּׁים מְשַׁחִיתִים (hârâshê mashhît, 'artisans of destruction'). This chilling phrase depicts professional destroyers—soldiers whose craft was devastation. God uses ungodly nations as instruments of His righteous judgment (Isaiah 10:5-6).

Historical Context

Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian army was infamous for systematic, professional destruction. Archaeological excavations show Babylonian siege techniques were brutally efficient, including starvation tactics, systematic burning, and complete demolition of city walls and gates.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How can God righteously use 'brutish men' as instruments of His judgment?
2. What does God's 'blowing on' judgment fires teach about His active involvement?
3. When have you seen God use difficult circumstances as refining fire in your life?

Interlinear Text

וְשִׁפְכָתִי	עַל־יְהוָה	זַעַם־יְהוָה	בְּאֹשֶׁר	עַבְרַת־
And I will pour out	H5921	mine indignation	against thee in the fire	of my wrath
	H8210		H784	H5678
בְּעָרָם אֲבָשׁ יְמִינְךָ	עַל־יְהוָה	וְנִתְתַּתְּךָ יְהוָה	בְּיַד	בְּעָרָם אֲבָשׁ יְמִינְךָ
upon thee I will blow	H5921	and deliver	thee into the hand	of brutish
	H6315		H3027	H1197
מְשֻׁחִיתָן סְבִישׁ				
and skilful to destroy				
H2796		H4889		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 30:33 (Parallel theme): For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

Psalms 18:15 (Parallel theme): Then the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered at thy rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

Jeremiah 4:7 (Parallel theme): The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.

Nahum 1:6 (Parallel theme): Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

Ezekiel 7:8 (Judgment): Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations.

Ezekiel 14:19 (Parallel theme): Or if I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast:

Haggai 1:9 (Parallel theme): Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

Isaiah 40:7 (Parallel theme): The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.

Isaiah 37:7 (Parallel theme): Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.