

# Ezekiel 21:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Seeing then that I will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked, therefore shall my sword go forth out of his sheath against all flesh from the south to the north:

## Analysis

**"Seeing then that I will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked, therefore shall my sword go forth out of his sheath against all flesh from the south to the north:"** The comprehensive scope "from south to north" (מִנְגֶּב עַד־צָפֹן) covers entire land—no region escapes. "Against all flesh" (el-kol-basar, אֶל־כָּל־בָּשָׂר) universalizes judgment. The drawn sword remains unsheathed until judgment completes—no premature mercy interrupts God's determined purpose. This totality ensures no one escapes through geography or strategy.

## Historical Context

Babylon's conquest indeed affected the entire land from southern Negev to northern borders. Archaeological surveys document comprehensive destruction across Judah. No city or region avoided devastation. The totality fulfilled this prophecy—the drawn sword didn't return to its sheath until judgment was complete. This geographic comprehensiveness demonstrated that covenant violation brought universal consequences, not localized problems.

## Related Passages

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does geographic totality (south to north) illustrate judgment's inescapability?
2. What does the unsheathed sword (not returning until complete) teach about God's determined purposes?
3. In what ways does comprehensive judgment prevent presuming some areas are safe from divine discipline?

## Interlinear Text

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רִאָה	אֲשֶׁר	בְּעֵד	הַכְּרָב	תִּי	מִמֶּנּוּ	בָּ	צַדְיק	יְהִ
Seeing	H834		then that I will cut off		H4480		from thee the righteous	
H3282			H3772				H6662	
וְרָשָׁע	ע	לְכִ	תִּצְא	א	מִרְבֵּב	וְ	מִתְשַׁעַר	הַ
and the wicked		H3651	go forth		therefore shall my sword		out of his sheath	
H7563			H3318		H2719		H8593	
כָּל	כָּל	בְּשֵׁ	בְּ	רַב			אֵל	
H3605	against all flesh		from the south	to the north				H413
	H1320		H5045		H6828			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 20:47** (Word): 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.

**Ezekiel 7:2** (Parallel theme): Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land.

