

Ezekiel 22:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

Analysis

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying," This formula introduces God's parable of silver refining (22:17-22), emphasizing divine origin. The chapter catalogs Israel's comprehensive sins requiring purging judgment. The prophetic word serves both to indict and instruct—showing what demands judgment while teaching God's purposes through it.

Historical Context

The catalog of sins in Ezekiel 22 provided comprehensive indictment explaining why Jerusalem would fall. When judgment came, survivors would remember this detailed explanation, understanding their suffering as deserved consequence, not divine failure or pagan gods' victory. The word's preservation through exile served post-exilic community in understanding their history theologically.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does detailed sin-cataloging prevent misattributing judgment to wrong causes?

2. What does comprehensive indictment teach about God's thorough knowledge of our actions?
3. In what ways should awareness of divine knowledge shape our behavior and repentance?

Interlinear Text

לֵאמֹר: אֶל־יְהוָה־דְּבָר־יְהוָה־יָיִשׁ

H1961 And the word of the LORD H413 came unto me saying
H1697 H3068 H559

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