

Ezekiel 23:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These discovered her nakedness: they took her sons and her daughters, and slew her with the sword: and she became famous among women; for they had executed judgment upon her.

Analysis

These discovered her nakedness: they took her sons and her daughters describes comprehensive devastation—public shame, loss of dignity, family destruction. Nakedness in prophetic literature represents exposure, vulnerability, and humiliation (Genesis 9:21; Isaiah 47:3). Her sons and daughters taken indicates mass deportation and enslavement. Her slew they with the sword refers to massacre accompanying Samaria's fall. And she became famous among women; for they had executed judgment upon her transforms Israel into a cautionary tale. Her destruction served as warning to other nations. God's judgments are both punitive and pedagogical, teaching observers as well as punishing transgressors.

Historical Context

Assyrian conquest involved systematic brutality: destruction of cities, execution of leaders, deportation of populations (the lost ten tribes), and resettlement of foreign peoples in conquered territories. Assyrian records and archaeological evidence confirm the violence. Samaria's fall became proverbial, mentioned in prophetic warnings to Judah for the next century.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does sin eventually expose us to public shame?
2. What does it mean that God's judgments serve as warnings to others?
3. How should we respond to historical examples of divine judgment?

Interlinear Text

הַמִּתְּהָרֵךְ גַּל וְעַרְוָתָה בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְנָוֹתִים יְהוּדָה לְקַח חַזְקָה
H1992 **These discovered** her nakedness her sons and her daughters **they took**
H1540 H6172 H1121 H1323 H3947

וְאַוְתָּה בָּחַר בָּחַר כִּי תִּתְהִרְאִי שֶׁם
H853 **her with the sword** and slew **and she became famous**
H2719 H2026 H1961 H8034

לְבָשָׂר יְמִינָה שׂוֹר וְשִׁפּוּט יְמִינָה
among women judgment for they had executed **for**
H802 H8196 H6213 H0

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 23:29 (Parallel theme): And they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour, and shall leave thee naked and bare: and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms.

Hosea 2:10 (Parallel theme): And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

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