

Ezekiel 23:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will set my jealousy against thee, and they shall deal furiously with thee: they shall take away thy nose and thine ears; and thy remnant shall fall by the sword: they shall take thy sons and thy daughters; and thy residue shall be devoured by the fire.

Analysis

And I will set my jealousy against thee, and they shall deal furiously with thee reveals divine emotion driving historical events. God's jealousy is righteous zeal for exclusive covenant relationship—not petty envy but holy passion for His glory and His people's exclusive devotion. They shall take away thy nose and thine ears describes literal Babylonian practice—mutilation of captives. Thy remnant shall fall by the sword pronounces comprehensive destruction. They shall take thy sons and thy daughters indicates exile and enslavement. Thy residue shall be devoured by the fire refers to Jerusalem's burning (2 Kings 25:9). Every detail fulfilled precisely in 586 BC. Prophetic specificity demonstrates divine foreknowledge and control. Nothing happens randomly; judgment's details were planned and announced beforehand.

Historical Context

Babylonian practice included mutilation of rebels and defeated enemies as both punishment and deterrent. The siege of Jerusalem resulted in massive casualties, burning of temple and city, execution of Judah's leaders at Riblah (2 Kings 25:18-21), and deportation of survivors to Babylon—exactly as prophesied decades earlier.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How should we understand divine jealousy as righteous rather than petty?
2. What does prophetic fulfillment demonstrate about God's nature?
3. How do specific historical details fulfill divine warnings?

Interlinear Text

וְיִנְתַּקְתִּי	בְּךָ	קָנָאתִי	וְיִעַשׂ	אָזְתָּךְ
And I will set	my jealousy	H0	against thee and they shall deal	H854
H5414	H7068		H6213	
אָזְנְךָ	אָפָךְ	יִסְרָאֵל	אָסְרִיתָךְ	
furiously	thy nose	and thine ears	with thee they shall take away	and thy remnant
H2534	H639	H241	H5493	H319
בָּחַם	אָפָךְ	אָזְנְךָ	בָּחַם	
בָּחַם רַב	בָּחַם כַּפֵּר	בָּחַם כַּפֵּר	בָּחַם כַּפֵּר	
by the sword	shall fall	H1992	thy sons	and thy daughters
H2719	H5307		H1121	H1323
וְיִכְּרֹבֵת	וְיִכְּרֹבֵת	וְיִכְּרֹבֵת	וְיִכְּרֹבֵת	
they shall take	they shall take	they shall take	they shall take	
H3947				
בָּאָשָׁה	תָּאַכֵּל	תָּאַכֵּל	תָּאַכֵּל	
and thy remnant	shall be devoured	H784	by the fire	
H319	H398			

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 23:47 (Word): And the company shall stone them with stones, and dispatch them with their swords; they shall slay their sons and their daughters, and burn up their houses with fire.

Exodus 34:14 (Parallel theme): For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

Ezekiel 5:13 (Parallel theme): Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them.

Zephaniah 1:18 (Parallel theme): Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

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