

Ezekiel 23:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

And they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour describes vindictive thoroughness of conquest. Hatefully (bessin'ah) indicates personal malice, not merely military necessity. All thy labour refers to generational accumulation—everything built, earned, created would be confiscated. And shall leave thee naked and bare reduces Judah to original nothingness. The nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered uses sexual shame as metaphor for total disgrace. Both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms emphasizes sin itself becomes public spectacle. What was done in secret becomes displayed for all. Sin always comes to light; what we hide, God exposes (Luke 12:2-3). Every secret will be revealed; every hidden thing made manifest.

Historical Context

Babylonian conquered peoples lost everything: land, homes, livestock, treasures, freedom. Economic devastation was total, leaving land desolate and survivors impoverished. Archaeological evidence shows widespread destruction and population collapse in Judah after 586 BC, with occupation dropping perhaps 75% or more, confirming thorough judgment.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does sin's exposure constitute part of its punishment?
2. What does it mean that hidden things will be revealed?
3. How should awareness that all will be disclosed affect our behavior?

Interlinear Text

וְעָשׂוּ And they shall deal H6213	אֹתְךָ H854	בְּשֹׂנְאָה with thee hatefully H8135	וְלָקְחוּ and shall take away H3947	כָּל H3605
יְגִיעַ all thy labour H3018	וְעָזַב and shall leave H5800	עֵירָם thee naked H5903	וְעָרָה and bare H6181	וְנִגְלָה shall be discovered H1540
וְעָרָה and the nakedness H6172	זְנוֹנֶיךָ of thy whoredoms H2183	וְזִמָּתְךָ both thy lewdness H2154	וְזִמְנוֹתֶיךָ and thy whoredoms H8457	

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 16:39 (Parallel theme): And I will also give thee into their hand, and they shall throw down thine eminent place, and shall break down thy high places: they shall strip thee also of thy clothes, and shall take thy fair jewels, and leave thee naked and bare.