

Ezekiel 23:47

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

And the company shall stone them with stones describes execution method for adultery (Deuteronomy 22:21-24; John 8:5). And dispatch them with their swords adds military slaughter to judicial execution. They shall slay their sons and their daughters extends judgment to the next generation—covenant curses include children (Exodus 20:5). And burn up their houses with fire refers to total urban destruction. Each element corresponds to specific covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28). The progression—execution, slaughter, generational destruction, physical devastation—represents comprehensive judgment leaving nothing intact. When God judges, He judges thoroughly. Partial judgment doesn't accomplish His purposes; complete purgation is required. This is terrifying unless we realize Christ endured comprehensive judgment for us at the cross.

Historical Context

Jerusalem's fall included all these elements: execution of leaders at Riblah (2 Kings 25:18-21), general slaughter during siege and aftermath, death of children from famine and violence, and burning of city and temple (2 Kings 25:9). Covenant curses were fulfilled literally in every detail, demonstrating the certainty and precision of God's word.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. Why is God's judgment comprehensive rather than partial?
2. What does thorough judgment reveal about sin's seriousness?
3. How does Christ's comprehensive suffering satisfy comprehensive justice?

Interlinear Text

וְכָגֵם וְ	עֲלֵיהֶם	אֶבֶן	קָהָל	וּבְרֵחַ	אוֹתָהֶם
shall stone	H5921	them with stones	And the company	and dispatch	H853
H7275		H68	H6951	H1254	
בְּחֶרְבוֹתָם	בְּנֵיהֶם	וּבְנוֹתֵיהֶם	יְהָרְגוּ	וּבֵתֵיהֶם	
them with their swords	their sons	and their daughters	they shall slay	their houses	
H2719	H1121	H1323	H2026	H1004	
בְּאֵשׁ	וְשָׂרְפוּ:				
with fire	and burn up				
H784	H8313				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 39:8 (Parallel theme): And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 24:21 (Word): Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.

