

Ezekiel 25:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord GOD.

Analysis

God would execute vengeance 'by the hand of my people Israel,' fulfilled when Jewish Maccabees conquered Idumea (Edom) circa 125 BC, forcibly converting Edomites to Judaism. Ironically, Herod the Great was an Idumean, creating complex dynamics in Jesus' time. This reveals God's sovereignty in using even His disciplined people as instruments of justice.

Historical Context

After Babylon's fall, Nabatean Arabs pushed Edomites westward into southern Judea (called Idumea in Greek). John Hyrcanus (Hasmonean ruler) conquered them, demanding circumcision and Torah observance. Edomite ethnic identity effectively ended.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do you see God's sovereignty in the complex movements of history that fulfill His word?
2. What does it mean that God can use even previously disciplined people as instruments of His justice?

Interlinear Text

וְנָתַתִּי אֶת נִקְמָתִי בְּיַד עַמִּי
And I will lay H5414 H853 my vengeance in Edom H123 by the hand H3027 of my people H5971

יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעָשׂוּ בְּעַד־וָם כְּאַפִּי
Israel H3478 and they shall do H6213 in Edom H123 according to mine anger H639

וְכִנְהַמְתִּי וְיָדְעוּ אֶת נִקְמָתִי נָא
and according to my fury H2534 and they shall know H3045 H853 my vengeance H5360 saith H5002

יְהוָה אֲדֹנָי
the Lord H136 H3068

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 11:14 (Parallel theme): But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

Genesis 27:29 (References Lord): Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee.