

# Ezekiel 25:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethims, and destroy the remnant of the sea coast.

## Analysis

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God would 'cut off the Cherethims' (likely Cretans, possibly Philistines' origin per Amos 9:7) and 'destroy the remnant of the sea coast.' The Philistines would cease to exist as a distinct people. Their name would survive ironically—'Palestine' derives from 'Philistia'—but no ethnic Philistines remain. This demonstrates that those who persistently oppose God's purposes face oblivion.

## Historical Context

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The Philistines, likely originating from the Aegean region (Crete/Cyprus), settled Palestine's coastal plain circa 1200 BC. After Babylonian conquest, they never recovered distinct identity, being absorbed by surrounding peoples under Persian and Hellenistic rule.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does the disappearance of Israel's ancient enemies validate biblical authority?
2. What does the survival of God's people despite persistent opposition teach about His faithfulness?

## Interlinear Text

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לְכֹהֵן	כֹּה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	אֲדֹנָי	הַיְיָ
H3651	H3541	Therefore thus saith	the Lord	GOD	H2005
		H559	H136	H3069	
נֹכַח	יָדִי	עַל	פְּלִשְׁתִּים	וְהִכַּחֲשֵׁהוּ	
Behold I will stretch out	mine hand	H5921	upon the Philistines	and I will cut off	
H5186	H3027		H6430	H3772	
אֶת	כְּרֵיתֵי	וְהִכַּחֲשֵׁהוּ	אֶת	שְׂאֵרֵי	חֹמֶת
H853	the Cherethims	and destroy	H853	the remnant	coast
	H3774	H6		H7611	H2348
					H3220

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 30:14** (Parallel theme): We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

**Ezekiel 25:13** (References God): Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword.

**Ezekiel 25:7** (References Lord): Behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the heathen; and I will cut thee off from the people, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries: I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

**2 Samuel 15:18** (Parallel theme): And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king.

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