

Ezekiel 26:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee.

Analysis

He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field predicts the mainland settlements' destruction. And he shall make a fort against thee describes siege works. And cast a mount against thee refers to earthen siege ramps. And lift up the buckler against thee means raising siege shields. The technical military details show God's intimate knowledge of warfare and His use of standard military practices to accomplish His purposes. Judgment employs ordinary means directed by extraordinary providence. God doesn't usually work miraculously when natural means suffice—He sovereignly orchestrates natural processes.

Historical Context

Ancient siege warfare followed standard practices: isolating the city, building siege works (forts, ramps), deploying siege engines, and systematic assault. Nebuchadnezzar employed all these against Tyre. Archaeological evidence from other sites shows Babylonian siege methodology matching Ezekiel's description, confirming both historical accuracy and prophetic precision.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God use ordinary means to accomplish extraordinary purposes?
2. What does siege imagery teach about patient, persistent judgment?
3. Why does God typically work through natural processes rather than constant miracles?

Interlinear Text

עַל־יְהוָה בְּנֹתֶת־יְהוָה בְּשָׂדֶה בְּפֶתַח־כָּבֵד יִהְרֹא וְיִתְּמַתֵּן | עַל־יְהוָה יִתְּמַתֵּן H5921

thy daughters in the field with the sword He shall slay and he shall make H1323 H7704 H2719 H2026 H5414

עַל־יְהוָה סָלֵל הַעַל־יְהוָה וְיִתְּמַתֵּן | עַל־יְהוָה וְיִתְּמַתֵּן H5921 H5550 H6965

a fort against thee and cast a mount against thee and lift up H1785 H8210

צְבָבָה:
the buckler H6793

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 21:22 (Parallel theme): At his right hand was the divination for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort.

Jeremiah 52:4 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it, and built forts against it round about.

Jeremiah 6:6 (Parallel theme): For thus hath the LORD of hosts said, Hew ye down trees, and cast a mount against Jerusalem: this is the city to be visited; she is wholly oppression in the midst of her.

Jeremiah 32:24 (Word): Behold the mounts, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans, that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence: and what thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, thou seest it.

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