

Ezekiel 28:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Zidon; and I will be glorified in the midst of thee: and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall have executed judgments in her, and shall be sanctified in her.

Analysis

For I will send into her pestilence, and blood into her streets—God's instruments of judgment: דֶּבֶר (deber, 'pestilence/plague') and דָּם (dām, 'blood'). The combination appears frequently in covenant curses (Leviticus 26:25, Deuteronomy 32:24).

And the wounded shall be judged in the midst of her by the sword upon her on every side—The Hebrew וְנִפְּלָה חָלָל בְּתוֹכָהּ בְּחֶרֶב עָלֶיהָ מִסָּבִיב (wěniphal ḥālāl bēthôkhāh bēḥereb ‘āleyhā missābîb) depicts complete encirclement and slaughter. מִסָּבִיב (missābîb, 'on every side') means no escape. **And they shall know that I am the LORD**—The inevitable conclusion: fulfilled prophecy produces recognition of YHWH's sovereignty. God's judgments are not arbitrary but covenant-based, publicly demonstrated, and designed to reveal His character to both victims and observers.

Historical Context

Historical records confirm pestilence, bloodshed, and siege warfare characterized Sidon's judgments. The Persian siege (345 BC) involved famine (causing plague), betrayal (bloodshed), and complete military encirclement. Classical historians

Diodorus Siculus and Arrian describe the horror. Ezekiel's 'sword upon her on every side' proved literally accurate.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. Why does God use multiple instruments of judgment (pestilence, blood, sword)?
2. How do comprehensive judgments ('on every side') demonstrate the impossibility of escaping God?
3. What should we learn from the fulfillment of specific prophetic details?

Interlinear Text

אֶמַר	כֹּה	אֶמַר	אֲדַןּ י	יְהוָה	הִנֵּנִי י	עַל יָרֵךְ
And say	H3541	And say	the Lord	GOD	H2005	H5921
H559		H559	H136	H3069		
צִיד וְ			וְנִכְבְּדַתִּי י		בְּתוֹכָךְ	
Behold I am against thee O Zidon			and I will be glorified		in the midst	
H6721			H3513		H8432	
וְיָדְעוּ			כִּי	אֲנִי י	יְהוָה	
of thee and they shall know			H3588	H589	that I am the LORD	
H3045					H3068	
בְּעֵשׂ וְתִי			בָּהּ	שְׁפָט יִם		וְנִקְדָּשְׁתִּי
when I shall have executed			H0	judgments		in her and shall be sanctified
H6213				H8201		H6942
						H0

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 39:13 (Glory): Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.

Exodus 14:4 (References Lord): And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD. And they did so.

Exodus 14:17 (Parallel theme): And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

Ezekiel 20:41 (Holy): I will accept you with your sweet savour, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen.