

Ezekiel 32:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of hell with them that help him: they are gone down, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword.

Analysis

The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of hell pictures other fallen rulers greeting Egypt in Sheol. With them that help him means Egypt's allies also fell. They are gone down, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword describes their shared fate. The image of former rivals welcoming new arrivals to the realm of the dead is darkly ironic—death creates fellowship in judgment. Those who competed on earth share common doom in death. All human rivalry is temporary; death unites all in common fate apart from God.

Historical Context

This vision pictures Sheol populated with fallen empires and their leaders—Assyria, Elam, Meshech, Tubal, Edom, Sidon (mentioned in following verses), and now Egypt joining them. The procession of fallen empires teaches that no earthly power endures. All empires fall; all rulers die; all glory fades. Only God's kingdom is everlasting.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does the fellowship of fallen empires teach about earthly competition?
2. How does death unite former rivals in common fate?
3. What survives when all earthly kingdoms fall?

Interlinear Text

שָׁא	וְلִ	מַתְ	וּךְ	גָּבֹר	יְמִ	אֵל	וְلִ	יְדָבָרְוָ
shall speak	H0	The strong	among the mighty	to him	out of the midst		of hell	
H1696		H410	H1368		H8432		H7585	
אֶת	עָזָב	וְיַד	שָׁכַב	בְּעָרֵל	יְמִ	מַלְלִ		
H854	with them that help	H5826	H3381	H7901	they lie	uncircumcised	slain	H2491
					H6189			
בִּקְרָבָן								
by the sword								
H2719								

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 32:27 (Word): And they shall not lie with the mighty that are fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone down to hell with their weapons of war: and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.