

# Ezekiel 35:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

## Analysis

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This verse articulates God's righteous judgment against persistent sin and rebellion. From a Reformed perspective, this demonstrates God's holiness and justice—He cannot overlook sin but must judge it. The passage shows both the necessity of judgment (God's character demands it) and its purpose (to vindicate His holiness, demonstrate sin's seriousness, and turn people from destruction). Understanding divine judgment helps us grasp gospel grace: Christ bore the judgment we deserved, satisfying God's justice while extending mercy to all who trust in Him (Romans 3:25-26). God's judgment isn't arbitrary or cruel but righteous response to covenant violation and moral rebellion.

## Historical Context

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This passage was delivered during the Babylonian exile (c. 586-571 BCE) after Jerusalem's destruction. The exiled community grappled with theological and practical questions: Why had judgment come? Would restoration occur? How should they live in exile? The historical context of ancient Near Eastern covenant patterns, conquest and exile practices, and prophetic literature provides essential background. Archaeological discoveries from this period illuminate the exile's realities and the return's historical fulfillment. Yet Ezekiel's prophecies extend

beyond immediate historical context to find fuller realization in Christ and the church, with ultimate consummation in the new creation.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse deepen your understanding of God's character, purposes, or ways of working in history?
2. What specific application does this passage call you to make in your current circumstances or spiritual life?
3. How does this Old Testament passage illuminate New Testament teaching about Christ, salvation, or the church?

## Interlinear Text

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כְּשִׂמְחָה תִּבֶּה	לְנַחֲלָת	בֵּית	אֲשֶׁר עָלַי יִשְׂרָאֵל	
As thou didst rejoice	at the inheritance	of the house	of Israel	
H8057	H5159	H1004	H5921 H834	
שָׁמָּה הָיְתָה	כִּי אֶעֱשֶׂה	לְךָ	שָׁמָּה הָיְתָה	
because it was desolate	so will I do		unto thee thou shalt be desolate	
H8074	H3651 H6213	H0	H8077	
תְּהִי הָהָר	שֵׁעִיר	וְכָל	אֶדּוּם	כָּל הָאֶרֶץ
H1961	O mount	Seir	and all Idumea	
	H2022	H8165	H3605 H123	H3605
וְיָדְעוּ	כִּי	אֲנִי	יְהוָה:	
even all of it and they shall know			that I am the LORD	
H3045	H3588	H589	H3068	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Lamentations 4:21** (Parallel theme): Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that dwellest in the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee: thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.

**Psalms 137:7** (References Lord): Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

**Obadiah 1:15** (References Lord): For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

**Obadiah 1:12** (Parallel theme): But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

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