

Ezekiel 35:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

God would 'lay thy cities waste' and 'thou shalt be desolate'—transformation from populated nation to uninhabited ruin. The covenant formula 'thou shalt know that I am the LORD' reveals judgment's revelatory purpose. Even Edom would ultimately acknowledge Yahweh's sovereignty through fulfilled prophecy. Historical events teach theological truths.

Historical Context

Edomite cities were gradually destroyed and abandoned. By the Hellenistic period, Nabatean Arabs controlled former Edomite territory. Edomites were pushed westward into southern Judea (Idumea), eventually losing distinct ethnic identity.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you see God's sovereignty revealed through fulfilled prophecies about ancient nations?

2. What does history's validation of biblical prophecy teach about Scripture's authority?

Interlinear Text

תְּהִלִּתְךָ יְהִי רָחֵל אֲשֶׁר יְמִינְךָ כְּרָבֶב הַשְׁמִמְתָּן הַתְּהִלִּתְךָ
thy cities waste I will lay and thou shalt be desolate H1961
H5892 H2723 H859 H7760 H8077

וְיֶדְעָתָה תְּהִלִּתְךָ אֲנִי כִּי
and thou shalt know that I am the LORD H3068
H3045 H3588 H589

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 35:9 (References Lord): I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

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