

Ezekiel 35:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

Analysis

Edom's sin: 'perpetual hatred' toward Israel, shedding blood 'in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end.' Rather than showing mercy when Judah suffered deserved judgment, Edom exploited vulnerability. Kicking someone when they're down compounds sin. God judges not just actions but also timing and motivation.

Historical Context

During Jerusalem's 586 BC destruction, Edom helped Babylonians capture fleeing refugees, looted property, and occupied abandoned territory (Obadiah 11-14, Psalm 137:7). This treachery against a brother nation during their darkest hour made their sin particularly heinous.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How should you respond to others' suffering, even when they face deserved consequences?
2. What does 'perpetual hatred' reveal about the dangers of nursing grievances and refusing forgiveness?

Interlinear Text

עַן H3282	הִי H1961	וְתָ H0	אִיְבָתָ H342	לְבָ H0	עוֹלָם H5769	וַתִּגְרַם H5064
			hatred	Because thou hast had a perpetual		and hast shed
אֶת H853	בְּנֵי H1121	דָּמַת H1121	יִשְׂרָאֵל H3478	עַל H5921	יְדֵי H3027	חֶרֶב H2719
	the blood of the children		of Israel	by the force		of the sword
בְּעֵת H6256	אִיְבָתָ H343	בְּעֵת H6256	עוֹלָם H5771	וְעַד H7093		
in the time	of their calamity	in the time	that their iniquity	had an end		

Additional Cross-References

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

Amos 1:11 (Word): Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

Ezekiel 21:29 (Sin): Whiles they see vanity unto thee, whiles they divine a lie unto thee, to bring thee upon the necks of them that are slain, of the wicked, whose day is come, when their iniquity shall have an end.

Ezekiel 21:25 (Sin): And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end,

Ezekiel 25:12 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them;

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