

# Ezekiel 38:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken,  
Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of  
Israel;

## Analysis

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This prophetic word demonstrates God's sovereign control over history and nations. Even pagan empires and hostile coalitions serve God's purposes while remaining morally accountable for their actions. This Reformed understanding of providence affirms that nothing occurs outside God's decree, yet human agents bear full responsibility for their choices. The prophecy serves pastoral purposes: assuring God's people of His protection, warning enemies of certain judgment, and demonstrating that history moves toward God's appointed end. These prophecies find layered fulfillment—immediate historical, ongoing spiritual, and ultimate eschatological.

## 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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## 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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וּבְקִנְיָתִי י'	בְּאֵשׁ	עֲבֹרֹתַי י'	דִּבַּר רִנָּתִי	אָם	לֹא אֲנִי
For in my jealousy	and in the fire	of my wrath	have I spoken	H518	H3808
H7068	H784	H5678	H1696		
בְּיָמֵינוּ	הָיָה וְאֵל	יִהְיֶה, עֹשֶׂה	גָּדוֹל וְלֹא	עַל	
Surely in that day	H1931	H1961	shaking	there shall be a great	H5921
H3117		H7494	H1419		
אֲדָמָה תִּשְׁרָאֵל:					
in the land	of Israel				
H127	H3478				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 16:20** (Parallel theme): And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

**Revelation 11:13** (Parallel theme): And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of

men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

**Revelation 16:18** (Parallel theme): And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

**Hebrews 12:26** (Parallel theme): Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

**Joel 3:16** (References Israel): The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

**Ezekiel 5:13** (Parallel theme): Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them.