

Ezekiel 39:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.

Analysis

The name of the city shall be Hamonah—The Hebrew Hamonah (הַמּוֹנָה) derives from hamon (multitude, horde), forming a feminine noun meaning "the multitude" or "horde-ville." This city name permanently memorializes Gog's defeat, functioning as perpetual testimony to God's judgment against those who assault His covenant people.

Thus shall they cleanse the land concludes the burial narrative with the Hebrew tikhar ha-aretz (צִקְהָר הָאָרֶץ), using the Piel intensive form of taher (purify, cleanse). The intensive verbal form emphasizes thorough, complete purification. The definite article ha-aretz (הָאָרֶץ, "the land") refers specifically to covenant territory, not generic earth, underscoring that this cleansing restores Israel's land to covenantal holiness fit for Yahweh's presence.

Historical Context

Naming cities after significant events was common in biblical tradition: Babel (confusion), Beersheba (well of the oath), Jehovah-jireh (the LORD will provide). Hamonah functions as a perpetual warning monument, similar to memorial stones at Jordan crossing (Joshua 4:7) or Ebenezer (1 Samuel 7:12).

For Ezekiel's exilic audience, the promise of purified land addressed their deepest concern: could the land ever be restored after such catastrophic judgment? Ezekiel answers affirmatively—through God's decisive victory and Israel's faithful

cleansing, the land will be restored to covenantal purity. The city Hamonah represents transformation of defeat into memorial, battlefield into testimony, ensuring future generations remember God's faithfulness to defend His people.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do permanent memorials of God's judgments serve to strengthen faith across generations?
2. What modern "Hamonahs" (reminders of God's past deliverances) help sustain your confidence in His future faithfulness?

Interlinear Text

וְאֶת־ H1571	שְׁמָה H8034	עַיר H5892	הַמּוֹנֵה H1997	וְעַל־ H2891
And also the name	of the city	shall be Hamonah	Thus shall they cleanse	

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