

Ezekiel 5:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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. God's anger will run its full course—"accomplished" (khalah appi, כָּלָה אֲפִי) means completed, finished, or brought to exhaustion. Divine wrath isn't arbitrary emotion but settled judicial response to sin that must fully express itself. "I will cause my fury to rest" (hanichoti chamati, הִנֵּחֹתִי חָמָתִי) uses language of satisfaction—God's righteous anger will be appeased, not through human sacrifice but through just punishment of sin.

"I will be comforted" (hitnechamti, הִתְנַחֲמֹתִי) uses anthropomorphic language describing God's satisfaction when justice is served. This doesn't mean God takes pleasure in human suffering (Ezekiel 18:23, 32; 33:11) but that His righteous character finds vindication when sin is punished. "They shall know that I the LORD have spoken" emphasizes the pedagogical purpose—judgment teaches God's reality, sovereignty, and faithfulness to His word. The phrase "in my zeal" (be-qin'ati, בְּקִנְיָתִי) reveals that jealous love for His own honor and His people's good drives divine judgment.

This verse confronts modern sentimentalism that dismisses divine wrath. God's anger against sin is real, settled, and must be satisfied. The gospel's glory is that

Christ's death fully accomplished and exhausted God's fury against believers' sin (Romans 3:25-26; 1 John 2:2). The anger that should rest on us rested on Him. God is 'comforted' (satisfied) by Christ's sacrifice, so believers never face divine fury (Romans 5:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:9).

Historical Context

The phrase 'they shall know that I the LORD have spoken' occurs over 70 times in Ezekiel, forming a key theme. Israel's exile forced recognition that prophetic warnings weren't empty threats but divine truth. When Jerusalem fell exactly as Ezekiel prophesied, survivors had to acknowledge God's word proved faithful and His judgment righteous.

God's 'zeal' (qin'ah) appears throughout Ezekiel (5:13; 36:5-6; 38:19; 39:25), describing His passionate commitment to His own glory and His people's good. Like a husband's jealousy when his wife commits adultery, God's zeal burns against covenant unfaithfulness. This zeal motivated both judgment (removing what defiled) and eventual restoration (renewing covenant relationship).

Historical outcome vindicated God's zeal. The exile purged idolatry from Israel—post-exilic Jews never again practiced widespread idol worship as pre-exilic generations had. The severe discipline accomplished God's purpose: producing a people who truly knew the LORD and took His word seriously. Suffering served refinement, not annihilation, demonstrating that even God's fury ultimately serves redemptive ends.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does God's anger being 'accomplished' challenge views that minimize divine wrath against sin?
2. What does God's 'zeal' teach about His passionate commitment to His own glory and His people's holiness?
3. In what ways does Christ's exhausting God's fury on the cross bring comfort to believers?

Interlinear Text

בְּכִלּוֹתִי י	אֲפִי י	וְהִנְחוּתִי י	חֲמַתִּי י	בְּ י
be accomplished	Thus shall mine anger	to rest	and I will cause my fury	H0
H3615	H639	H5117	H2534	
וְהִנֵּנִי מְתִי	וְיָדְעוּ ו	כִּי י	אֲנִי י	יְהוָה ה
upon them and I will be comforted	and they shall know	H3588	H589	that I the LORD
H5162	H3045			H3068
דִּבַּר רְתִי	בְּקִנְיָתִי י	בְּכִלּוֹתִי י	חֲמַתִּי י	בָּם:
have spoken	it in my zeal	be accomplished	and I will cause my fury	H0
H1696	H7068	H3615	H2534	

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 1:24 (References Lord): Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies:

Isaiah 59:17 (Parallel theme): For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

Ezekiel 6:12 (Parallel theme): He that is far off shall die of the pestilence; and he that is near shall fall by the sword; and he that remaineth and is besieged shall die by the famine: thus will I accomplish my fury upon them.

Ezekiel 20:21 (Parallel theme): Notwithstanding the children rebelled against me: they walked not in my statutes, neither kept my judgments to do them, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; they polluted my sabbaths: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the wilderness.

Ezekiel 21:17 (References Lord): I will also smite mine hands together, and I will cause my fury to rest: I the LORD have said it.

Ezekiel 7:8 (Parallel theme): Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations.

Ezekiel 20:8 (Parallel theme): But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

Lamentations 4:11 (References Lord): The LORD hath accomplished his fury; he hath poured out his fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion, and it hath devoured the foundations thereof.