

Ezekiel 6:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries.

Analysis

Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries. Within comprehensive judgment, grace appears—"Yet will I leave a remnant" (vehotarti, וְהוֹתַרְתִּי). God sovereignly preserves some who "escape the sword" despite deserving death like their countrymen. This remnant theology pervades Scripture (Isaiah 10:20-22; Romans 11:5)—God always maintains faithful few through whom covenant purposes continue. Their scattering "among the nations" serves missional purposes—dispersed witnesses carry knowledge of the true God internationally. Judgment that scatters simultaneously creates opportunities for wider gospel proclamation.

Historical Context

The Babylonian exile created a diaspora throughout the ancient Near East—communities in Babylon, Egypt, and beyond. This dispersion, though rooted in judgment, providentially positioned Jews to influence Gentile nations and later receive the gospel in their own locations (Acts 2:5-11). The remnant's faithfulness in exile (Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah) testified to Yahweh's reality among pagans. Some exiles returned to rebuild Jerusalem (Ezra-Nehemiah); others remained scattered, forming synagogues throughout the Roman Empire that became Christianity's initial missionary base (Acts 13:5, 14; 14:1; 17:1-2, 10; 18:4).

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's preservation of a remnant reveal His faithfulness to covenant promises despite deserved judgment?
2. What does the scattering of the remnant teach about God using judgment for missional purposes?
3. In what ways can believers today serve as faithful remnant witnesses in secular culture?

Interlinear Text

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|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---|
| יְהוֹמֶתֶת י | לֶךְ מִ | בְּהִי וְ | פֶּלַי יִטִּי |
| Yet will I leave a remnant | H1961 | H0 | that ye may have some that shall escape |
| H3498 | | | H6412 |
| חֶרֶב | בְּגוֹיִם | בְּהִזְרוֹתֵיכֶם | בְּאַרְצוֹת: |
| the sword | among the nations | when ye shall be scattered | through the countries |
| H2719 | H1471 | H2219 | H776 |

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 14:22 (Parallel theme): Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, both sons and daughters: behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings: and ye shall be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it.

Isaiah 6:13 (Parallel theme): But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.

Jeremiah 44:14 (Parallel theme): So that none of the remnant of Judah, which are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the land of Judah, to the which they have a desire to return to dwell there: for none shall return but such as shall escape.

Jeremiah 44:28 (Word): Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah, that are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or their's.

Ezekiel 12:16 (Word): But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine, and from the pestilence; that they may declare all their abominations among the heathen whither they come; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Jeremiah 30:11 (Parallel theme): For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.