

Ezekiel 7:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land.

Analysis

Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land. The double emphatic "An end, the end" (qets ha-qets ba, אֶת־הַקֵּץ הַקֵּץ בָּא) creates drumbeat effect emphasizing finality. Hebrew qets means termination, conclusion, or boundary—Israel's time has run out. "Upon the four corners of the land" (al-arba kanfot ha-aretz, עַל־אַרְבַּע כַּנְפוֹת הָאָרֶץ) indicates comprehensive, total judgment covering all territory. This announcement functions like death sentence—the verdict is final, execution imminent. The repetition throughout chapter 7 hammers home inevitability, stripping away all hope of escaping judgment through human effort.

Historical Context

For centuries, prophets warned of coming judgment (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Amos, Micah). Israel ignored these warnings, presuming God's patience was infinite or His threats empty. Ezekiel declares the accumulated delay has ended—God's forbearance is exhausted. The 'four corners' emphasizes no region escapes: northern Israel (fallen to Assyria 722 BC), southern Judah (about to fall to Babylon), and all territories between. The comprehensive scope meant nowhere in the land offered safety. Only exile beyond the land's borders might preserve a remnant.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the double emphasis 'the end, the end' challenge presumption on God's patience?
2. What does comprehensive judgment ('four corners') teach about the impossibility of partial obedience?
3. How should Christians balance confidence in God's grace with awareness that patience has limits?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת הַ	בֶּן	אָדָם	כֹּה	אָמַר	אֲדֹנָי	יְהוָה
H859	Also thou son	of man	H3541	thus saith	the Lord	GOD
	H1121	H120		H559	H136	H3069
לְאֶדְמַת	יִשְׂרָאֵל	הַקֵּץ	בָּא	הַקֵּץ	עַל	אַרְבַּעַת
unto the land	of Israel	An end	is come	An end	H5921	upon the four
H127	H3478	H7093	H935	H7093		H702
הָאָרֶץ:	כָּנָפִי	וְ				
corners	of the land					
H3671	H776					

Additional Cross-References

Amos 8:2 (References Lord): And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the LORD unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

Amos 8:10 (Parallel theme): And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.

Ezekiel 7:3 (Parallel theme): Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations.

1 Peter 4:7 (Parallel theme): But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

Ezekiel 11:13 (References God): And it came to pass, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then fell I down upon my face, and cried with a loud voice, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou make a full end of the remnant of Israel?

Lamentations 4:18 (Parallel theme): They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets: our end is near, our days are fulfilled; for our end is come.