

# Ezekiel 9:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.

## Analysis

**He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.** This begins Ezekiel's terrifying vision of Jerusalem's destruction. The loud divine cry summons executioners with "destroying weapons" (keli mashchito, מְשֻׁחָתִים) — instruments of slaughter. These angelic agents execute God's judgment on the defiled city. The vision graphically portrays what will occur literally when Babylon conquers Jerusalem — divine orchestration of historical catastrophe. God doesn't passively allow destruction; He actively commands it against persistent covenant violation.

## Historical Context

This vision (circa 592 BC) preceded Jerusalem's fall by six years, giving prophetic preview of coming judgment. The 'charge over the city' refers to angelic guardians or executioners implementing divine decree. Ancient Near Eastern theology recognized celestial beings executing divine will (2 Kings 19:35; Daniel 10:13, 20). When Babylon actually destroyed Jerusalem (586 BC), Ezekiel's vision was vindicated — what seemed symbolic horror became literal history, confirming God's word through His prophet.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does God commanding destruction challenge views that He merely permits evil without active involvement?
2. What does angelic execution of judgment teach about God using both spiritual and human instruments?
3. In what ways should prophetic visions of judgment shape our urgency in evangelism?

## Interlinear Text

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קָרְבָּן וְלֹאָמָר גָּדוֹל לְאַל בְּאַזְנֵי וְלֹאָמָר  
He cried also in mine ears voice with a loud saying to draw near  
H7121 H241 H6963 H1419 H559 H7126

כְּלָיָד וְעַזְבָּן כְּלָיָד וְעַזְבָּן  
Cause them that have charge over the city even every man weapon  
H6486 H5892 H376 H3627

בְּיָדָיו מְשִׁיחָת וְ  
with his destroying in his hand  
H4892 H3027

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 6:8** (Parallel theme): Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

**Revelation 14:7** (Parallel theme): Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

**1 Chronicles 21:15** (Parallel theme): And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

**2 Kings 10:24** (Parallel theme): And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he that letteth him go, his life shall be for the life of him.

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