

Ezekiel 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?

Analysis

"And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?" Ezekiel intercedes, horrified by judgment's scope. His cry "Ah Lord GOD!" (ahah Adonai Yahweh) expresses anguished protest. The question "wilt thou destroy all?" reveals fear that total annihilation will leave no remnant. This demonstrates proper prophetic balance—faithfully declaring judgment while grieving its necessity and interceding for mercy. True prophets announce God's wrath without celebrating it.

Historical Context

Ezekiel's intercession mirrors Moses (Exodus 32:11-14), Abraham (Genesis 18:23-32), and Jeremiah (Jeremiah 14:7-9, 19-22). Prophetic ministry combines unflinching truth-telling with compassionate intercession. Though Ezekiel proclaimed judgment for years, witnessing its visionary execution still moved him to pray for the remnant's preservation. God's response (verse 9) explains judgment's necessity while implying (through marking the remnant, verse 4) that total destruction won't occur.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Ezekiel's intercession model balancing truth-telling about judgment with compassionate prayer?
2. What does the prophet's grief over judgment teach about maintaining tender hearts while proclaiming hard truths?
3. In what ways should knowledge of coming judgment drive us to intercession rather than celebration?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי	כְּהָכוֹתָם	וְנִאֲשָׂא ר	אֲנִי				
H1961			H589				
And it came to pass while they were slaying them and I was left							
	H5221	H7604					
הָאֵל	עַל וְאָפַל	פָּנַי	וְאָמַר	וְאָזַע ק	אָהָה	אֲדֹנָי	יְהוָה
that I fell	H5921	upon my face	and cried	and said	Ah	Lord	GOD
H5307		H6440	H2199	H559	H162	H136	H3069
וְהִמָּשְׁחָה יְת	אֶת הָאֵל	אֶת הָאֵל	כָּל	שְׂאִר יְת	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל		
wilt thou destroy	H859	H853	H3605	all the residue	of Israel		
H7843				H7611	H3478		
בְּשִׁפְכָךְ	אֶת	חֲמָתְךָ	עַל	יְרוּשָׁלַם:			
in thy pouring out	H853	of thy fury	H5921	upon Jerusalem			
H8210		H2534		H3389			

Additional Cross-References

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?

1 Chronicles 21:16 (References Lord): And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

Ezekiel 4:14 (References God): Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.

Joshua 7:6 (References Lord): And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.

Numbers 14:5 (References Israel): Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

Numbers 16:45 (Parallel theme): Get you up from among this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment. And they fell upon their faces.