

Hosea 9:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred.

Analysis

The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred. Visitation and recompense - judgment has arrived. Israel shall know emphasizes certainty. The prophet called fool and spiritual man called mad describes rejection of God's messengers. Cause: multitude of iniquity and great hatred. When societies reject prophetic voices, judgment proves prophets right. Only heeding God's word prevents disaster.

Historical Context

Israel mocked prophets (Amos 7:12-13, Hosea called fool), rejecting warnings. Yet Assyrian conquest vindicated prophecies - Israel learned truth through experiencing predicted judgment. This pattern recurs: societies rejecting biblical proclamation eventually face consequences proving truth of warnings. Jesus wept over Jerusalem refusing Him (Luke 19:41-44), predicting destruction Rome executed (70 AD). Modern application: dismissing biblical warnings as foolishness doesn't prevent judgment, merely removes excuse. Only humble reception of God's word provides safety.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. In what ways do I dismiss biblical warnings as foolish, risking the consequences prophets accurately predicted?
2. How does judgment vindicating rejected prophets demonstrate both Scripture's reliability and necessity of heeding it?

Interlinear Text

דַע וְבָא יְמִינֵינוּ בְּפָקָדֵה בְּאֹתָיו בְּאֹתָיו בְּיְמִינֵינוּ בְּפָשָׁלָם יְדַעַת
shall know the days of visitation are come the days of recompence are come the days of visitation are come
H3045 H3117 H6486 H935 H3117 H7966 H3045

עַל בָּר וּמְנֻשָּׁא לְיִשְׂרָאֵל הַפְּגַב יְאֹוָה מְשֻׁגָּעַ אֲוֹשֵׁה יְשַׁׁבֵּא
Israel is a fool it the prophet is mad man the spiritual H5921
H3478 H191 H5030 H7696 H376 H7307

מְשֻׁטָּמָה: הַרְבֵּת הַגְּדוּלָה עֲזֹתְךָ תְּנִתְּנָה
for the multitude of thine iniquity and the great hatred
H7230 H5771 H7227 H4895

Additional Cross-References

Micah 7:4 (Parallel theme): The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity.

2 Kings 9:11 (Parallel theme): Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and one said unto him, Is all well? wherefore came this mad fellow to thee? And he said unto them, Ye know the man, and his communication.

Isaiah 10:3 (Parallel theme): And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help? and where will ye leave your glory?

Jeremiah 10:15 (Parallel theme): They are vanity, and the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

Mark 3:21 (Parallel theme): And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself.

Ezekiel 13:3 (Spirit): Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!

Lamentations 2:14 (Prophecy): Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.