

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 recompence - 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

בָּאוּ are come H935	יָמֵי The days H3117	הַפְּקֻדָּה of visitation H6486	בָּאוּ are come H935	יָמֵי The days H3117	הַשָּׁלָם of recompence H7966	יָדְעוּ shall know H3045
יִשְׂרָאֵל Israel H3478	אֵל יִלְ is a fool H191	הַנָּבִיא it the prophet H5030	מְשֻׁנָּע is mad H7696	אִישׁ man H376	הָרוּחַ the spiritual H7307	עַל H5921
רַב for the multitude H7230	עוֹנֵה of thine iniquity H5771	וְרַב and the great H7227	מִשְׂטָמָה hatred 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.