

Isaiah 10:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks.

Analysis

This verse promises future judgment on Assyria itself. 'When the Lord hath performed his whole work' indicates God will complete His purpose of disciplining Israel/Judah first. Then He will 'punish the fruit of the stout heart'—Assyria's pride. 'The glory of his high looks' refers to arrogant boasting. Being God's instrument doesn't excuse Assyria's wickedness. This demonstrates God's justice—He judges both His people's sin and their oppressors' pride. Instruments of judgment are themselves judged.

Historical Context

Fulfilled when Assyria fell to Babylon (612 BC). After God used Assyria to discipline Israel (722 BC) and Judah (701 BC), He destroyed Assyria for its cruelty and pride. Nineveh's destruction was so complete that its location was lost for centuries. Isaiah 37:36-38 describes Sennacherib's army's destruction and his assassination—initial fulfillment before Assyria's final collapse. God's judgments are comprehensive and sequential.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does being used by God not exempt anyone from accountability for their actions?
2. What does sequential judgment—first Israel, then Assyria—teach about God's comprehensive justice?
3. How should we avoid pride when God uses us to accomplish His purposes?

Interlinear Text

הִבְאֵעַ	אָדָנִי
H1961	H3588
hath performed	Wherefore it shall come to pass that when the Lord
H1214	H136
כָּל אֶת מְעַשׂ הָוֹ	וּבִירוּשָׁלָם זִוְּנֵי רַבָּה
H853	H3605
his whole work	upon mount
H4639	H2022
Zion	and on Jerusalem
H6726	H3389
I will punish	
H6485	
עַל פְּרִי לְבָב גָּדָל	תִּפְאֵרָת וְעַל אֶשׁ וָרֶד מֶלֶךְ
H5921	
the fruit	of the stout
H6529	H1433
heart	of the king
H3824	H4428
of Assyria	
H5921	
and the glory	
H8597	
עִינָיו:	רִם
looks	
of his high	
H7312	H5869

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 65:7 (References Lord): Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

Jeremiah 50:18 (Kingdom): Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria.

2 Kings 19:31 (References Lord): For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

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