

Isaiah 10:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the Lord GOD of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in the midst of all the land.

Analysis

The Lord God of hosts will execute decreed destruction throughout the land. 'Consumption' and 'determined' emphasize the certainty and completeness of judgment. Yet it's executed by 'the Lord God of hosts'—the covenant God who controls heavenly armies. This balances severity with sovereignty—judgment isn't chaos but controlled divine act. The phrase 'in the midst of all the land' indicates comprehensive scope—no area escapes. Yet God's decreed limits prevent total annihilation; a remnant survives.

Historical Context

Fulfilled in Assyrian devastation of Israel (722 BC) and near-destruction of Judah (701 BC). Later, Babylonian conquest (586 BC) seemed to complete this consumption. Archaeological evidence confirms widespread destruction throughout Judah—46 cities destroyed according to Sennacherib's annals. Yet Jerusalem survived the Assyrian threat, and a remnant returned from Babylon. God's 'determined' judgment was severe but not total.

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

Study Questions

1. How do God's sovereign decrees govern both the extent and limits of judgment?
2. What comfort does it provide that even severe judgment operates within divine limits?
3. How does comprehensive judgment reveal God's holiness while preserved remnant reveals His mercy?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	כָל	וְנִחַרְצָהּ	אֲדֹנָי	יְהוָה	צָבָא וְ
H3588	a consumption	even determined	For the Lord	GOD	of hosts
	H3617	H2782	H136	H3069	H6635
עָשָׂה	בְּקֶרֶב	כָּל	הָאָרֶץ:		
shall make	in the midst	H3605	of all the land		
H6213	H7130		H776		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 28:22 (References God): Now therefore be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth.