

Isaiah 15:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the waters of Dimon shall be full of blood: for I will bring more upon Dimon, lions upon him that escapeth of Moab, and upon the remnant of the land.

Analysis

Divine judgment intensifies—"I will bring more upon Dimon" indicates escalating rather than diminishing consequences. The wordplay between "Dimon" and "dam" (blood) creates ominous atmosphere. Lions attacking both survivors ("him that escapeth") and remnant ("remaineth in the land") depicts comprehensive destruction—neither flight nor staying provides safety. This vivid image illustrates that attempted human solutions fail under divine judgment. The lions may represent literal predatory animals multiplying in depopulated regions (as occurred historically when regions were devastated), or metaphorically represent successive waves of invaders. Theologically, this reveals that sin's consequences compound; judgment unrepented leads to greater judgment. Only divine mercy interrupts this downward spiral—which Moab could have found by humbling themselves before Israel's God, but pride prevented.

Historical Context

Dimon (likely Dibon) was a major Moabite city where the Mesha Stele was discovered, recording Moab's victories and pride. The historical irony is profound —where Moab boasted of triumph, Isaiah prophesies comprehensive defeat. Historical records and archaeological evidence confirm that depopulated regions in ancient warfare often experienced wildlife expansion, including dangerous predators. The progression from human military devastation to wild animal threats reflects the breakdown of civilization's protective structures when divine judgment

falls. Multiple invasions (Assyrian, then Babylonian, then others) fulfilled this "more upon Dimon" prediction.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does the escalation of judgment ("bring more upon Dimon") teach about the compounding nature of unrepented sin?
2. How does the imagery of lions attacking both escapees and remnant illustrate that human solutions fail under divine judgment?
3. In what ways does God's judgment expose the futility of trusting anything but Him?

Interlinear Text

עַל אֲשֶׁר יְהִי בְּכָל מִזְרָחָה וְבְכָל מִזְרָחָה
H3588 For the waters of Dimon shall be full of blood for I will bring H5921
H4325 H1775 H4390 H1818 H7896

אֲרֵי הַ מֹּאָב לְפָלִיט תְּ נֹסֶף וְתַּ דִּימָן וְ
H1775 more upon him that escapeth of Moab lions
H3254 H6413 H4124 H738

וְלֹשֶׁאָרִי יְהִי אֶתְמָה:
and upon the remnant of the land
H7611 H127

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 17:25 (Parallel theme): And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.

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