

Isaiah 3:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water,

Analysis

The title 'Lord, the LORD of hosts' combines Adonai (sovereign master) with Yahweh Sabaoth (covenant God of armies), emphasizing both authority and power. God's removal of 'stay and staff' (support structures) represents comprehensive judgment—both bread (physical sustenance) and water (life necessity) will be withdrawn. This divine action demonstrates that human survival depends entirely on God's provision, not human systems.

Historical Context

This prophecy anticipated Babylonian siege and exile when Jerusalem would experience severe famine. The removal of basic provisions fulfilled covenant curses for disobedience (Leviticus 26:26, Deuteronomy 28:48).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How dependent are you on God for daily provision versus trusting in human systems?
2. What happens to society when God withdraws His common grace sustaining civilization?

Interlinear Text

בַּיִת	הַבָּיִת	בְּאֹד	וְאֶל	אָבָא	וְתַת	יְהִי	הַ	מִסְרָא	יְרֵא			
H3588	H2009	For	behold	the	Lord	the	LORD	of	hosts			
		H113			H3068		H6635		H5493			
מִרְוְשָׁלָם	וְמִשְׁעָנָה											
from	Jerusalem	and	from	Judah	stay	and	the	staff	and	the	whole	stay
H3389			H3063		H4937		H4938		H3605		H4937	
מִים	מִים	מִים										
of	bread	and	the	whole	stay	of	water					
H3899			H3605		H4937		H4325					

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 26:26 (Parallel theme): And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied.

Isaiah 2:22 (Parallel theme): Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?

Isaiah 1:24 (References Lord): Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies:

Ezekiel 14:13 (Parallel theme): Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the

staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it:

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