

Isaiah 3:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war.

Analysis

The prophecy that 'thy men shall fall by the sword' and 'thy mighty in the war' indicates military defeat and loss of male protectors. In ancient context, this left women vulnerable to exploitation and poverty. The personification of the city as female addresses corporate Judah, warning that covenant unfaithfulness leads to military defeat. This fulfills Deuteronomic curse that enemies would prevail (Deuteronomy 28:25), demonstrating that God fights against His rebellious people rather than for them.

Historical Context

Assyrian and Babylonian invasions decimated Judah's military. The siege of Jerusalem (701 BC and 586 BC) resulted in massive casualties, leaving survivors—predominantly women and children—destitute.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does military defeat serve as divine discipline for covenant unfaithfulness?

2. What modern 'mighty men' or sources of security might fall when we trust them instead of God?

Interlinear Text

בְּמָלְתָמָה: וְגַבּוּתְתָהּ רֹאֶה מַתְּרֵבֶת בְּכַח רַבָּה יְפֵלֶת לוֹא בְּמִלְחָמָה: וְגַבּוּתְתָהּ רֹאֶה מַתְּרֵבֶת בְּכַח רַבָּה יְפֵלֶת לוֹא
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 Thy men by the sword shall fall and thy mighty in the war
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