

Isaiah 34:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They shall call the nobles thereof to the kingdom, but none shall be there, and all her princes shall be nothing.

Analysis

The ironic statement "they shall call...but none shall be there" emphasizes total extinction of Edom's nobility. The calling of nobles to kingship yields nothing—a kingdom without rulers shows complete political collapse. This fulfills the principle that the proud will be humbled (James 4:6). The absence of princes demonstrates that human power structures are utterly dependent on God's permission; when He withdraws His restraining hand, even established kingdoms dissolve.

Historical Context

Edom had a continuous line of chieftains and kings (Genesis 36:31-43). Their political extinction was unthinkable in Isaiah's time but became historical reality.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the extinction of Edom's rulers demonstrate that all authority is delegated by God?
2. What does this teach about the temporary nature of human governments?

3. How should Christians view political power in light of God's ultimate sovereignty?

Interlinear Text

חֲבֵרֵי יְהוָה	וְאֵין	שָׁם	מִלִּשְׁכַּת הַמֶּלֶךְ	יִקְרָא אֹתוֹ	וְכָל
the nobles	H369	H8033	thereof to the kingdom	They shall call	H3605
H2715			H4410	H7121	
שָׁם יְהוָה			! הִיא	אֵפֶס:	
but none shall be there and all her princes			H1961	shall be nothing	
H8269				H657	

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