

# Isaiah 34:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch,  
and gather under her shadow: there shall the vultures also be  
gathered, every one with her mate.

## Analysis

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The "great owl" making her nest and laying eggs represents creatures finding permanent habitation in ruins. The Hebrew "qippoz" (possibly arrow snake) suggests dangerous creatures breeding undisturbed. "Vultures" gathering indicates ongoing death and decay. This comprehensive picture of desolation shows that once-thriving civilization becomes the domain of predators and scavengers. The irony is stark: Edom sought security but finds only creatures of death and darkness.

## Historical Context

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Such detailed listing of creatures was a prophetic technique to emphasize totality. The breeding and gathering suggests not temporary but permanent desolation.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does permanent desolation illustrate the enduring consequences of rejecting God?
2. What does the breeding of creatures in ruins teach about how sin multiplies when unchecked?
3. How should we view the "success" of godless societies knowing their ultimate fate?

## Interlinear Text

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שָׁמָּה H8033	קִנְיָהּ הַ H7077	קִפּוֹז H7091	וַתֵּלֶךְ הַ H4422	וַתֵּלֶךְ הַ H1234
make her nest	There shall the great owl	and lay	and hatch	
וַיִּגְרְּהוּ H1716	בְּצֵלָהּ הַ H6738	אֲנִי H389	שָׁמָּה H8033	וְנִקְבְּצוּ H6908
and gather	under her shadow		also be gathered	there shall the vultures
וְכָל H802	רֵעוּתָהּ: H7468			
every one	with her mate			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 14:13** (Parallel theme): And the glade, and the kite, and the vulture after his kind,