

Isaiah 36:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And am I now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it? the LORD said unto me, Go up against this land, and destroy it.

Analysis

Rabshakeh's claim "Am I now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it?" is particularly insidious—asserting that YHWH Himself authorized Assyria's invasion. The phrase "the LORD said unto me, Go up against this land" mimics prophetic language. This psychological warfare technique attempts to create religious doubt, suggesting that resisting Assyria means resisting God. While God does use pagan nations as instruments of judgment, Rabshakeh's blasphemous claim that God directly commissioned him is false.

Historical Context

Assyrian kings often claimed divine authorization for their conquests. Rabshakeh may have heard of Isaiah's prophecies about God using Assyria to judge Israel (Isaiah 10:5-6).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do God's enemies sometimes twist truth to create spiritual confusion?
2. What is the difference between God using pagan nations and those nations acting righteously?
3. How do we discern between God's discipline and Satan's accusations?

Interlinear Text

וְעַתָּה H6258	הַמְבַלְעֵד י H1107	יְהוָה H3068	וְעַל ה H5927	עַל H5921	הָאָרֶץ H776
	without	it the LORD	And am I now come up		against this land
אֶת H2063	וְהַשְׁחִיתָהּ: H7843	יְהוָה H3068	אָמַר י H559	וְעַל ה H5927	אֶל H413
	and destroy	it the LORD	said	And am I now come up	
וְעַל הָאָרֶץ H776	וְהַשְׁחִיתָהּ: H2063	וְעַל הָאָרֶץ H7843			
against this land	and destroy				

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 18:25 (References Lord): Am I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it.

1 Kings 13:18 (References Lord): He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

2 Chronicles 35:21 (Parallel theme): But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not.

