

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

בְּאֶרֶץ עַל הַמִּבְלָעֵד וְעַתָּה יְהוָה עַל הַזָּר בְּאֶרֶץ עַל
H6258 without it the LORD And am I now come up H5921 against this land
H1107 H3068 H5927 H776

בְּאֶרֶץ עַל הַמִּבְלָעֵד וְעַתָּה יְהוָה עַל הַזָּר בְּאֶרֶץ עַל
H2063 and destroy it the LORD said H413 And am I now come up H413
H7843 H3068 H559 H5927

בְּאֶרֶץ עַל הַזָּר וְעַתָּה יְהוָה עַל הַזָּר
against this land H2063 and destroy H7843

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.

