

Isaiah 36:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Rabshakeh said, Hath my master sent me to thy master and to thee to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men that sit upon the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

Analysis

Rabshakeh's graphic response about people eating their own dung and drinking their own urine depicts siege horror. He explicitly states his message targets the common people on the wall who will suffer siege deprivation. This crude psychological warfare aims to create panic and civilian pressure on Hezekiah to surrender. The tactic reveals Satan's methodology—targeting the vulnerable with worst-case scenarios to induce fear. Rabshakeh shows contempt for diplomatic protocol, exposing Assyria's brutal arrogance.

Historical Context

Ancient siege warfare did result in such horrific conditions when cities held out too long. Rabshakeh's description was not exaggeration but realistic threat.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the enemy use worst-case scenarios to paralyze believers with fear?
2. What is the antidote to terror-based psychological warfare?
3. How do we maintain hope when facing genuinely threatening circumstances?

Interlinear Text

שֹׁלַח־נִי וְאֶל־יְה	אָדָן־י	בְּרַשְׁתָּךְ־ה	כִּי־אַחֲרָךְ	לֹא־כִּי	שֹׁלַח־נִי וְאֶל־יְה	אָדָן־י	בְּרַשְׁתָּךְ־ה	כִּי־אַחֲרָךְ	לֹא־כִּי
said	But Rabshakeh	H413	H113	H413	sent				
H559	H7262				H7971				
עַל־כָּל־אֶת־לֹא־כִּי	לִדְבָּר־רַבְשָׁקֵה	אָתָּה־מִתְּדַבֵּר־לְךָ	אָתָּה־מִתְּדַבֵּר־לְךָ	עַל־כָּל־אֶת־לֹא־כִּי	לִדְבָּר־רַבְשָׁקֵה	אָתָּה־מִתְּדַבֵּר־לְךָ	אָתָּה־מִתְּדַבֵּר־לְךָ	עַל־כָּל־אֶת־לֹא־כִּי	לִדְבָּר־רַבְשָׁקֵה
H113	H1696	H853	H1697	H428	H3808	H5921			
H376	H3427	H5921	H2346	H398	H853				
עַמְּקָם־שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם	שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם	עַל־כָּל־הַשִּׁישִׁים	לֹא־כִּי	עַמְּקָם־שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם	שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם	עַל־כָּל־הַשִּׁישִׁים	לֹא־כִּי	עַמְּקָם־שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם	שִׁינְיָם אֶת־וְלַשְׁתָּה וְתַּסְרַעַת־יְמֵיכֶם
H2716	H8354	H853	H7890	H5973					

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 18:27 (Word): But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?