

# Isaiah 37:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it; and of ancient times, that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste defenced cities into ruinous heaps.

## Analysis

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God's response "Hast thou not heard?" begins His rebuke. The revelation "long ago" and "of ancient times" shows that Assyria's success wasn't their achievement but God's sovereign plan. "I have formed it" and "now have I brought it to pass" reveals God as the actual cause of Assyrian military victories. This demonstrates crucial theology: God uses even pagan nations as instruments (Isaiah 10:5-6). What Assyria claimed as their power was actually God's sovereign orchestration. Pride consists of taking credit for what God alone accomplished.

## Historical Context

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This theology appears throughout Scripture—God raising and lowering nations according to His purposes (Daniel 2:21). Assyria was God's "rod of anger" against unfaithful Israel.

## Related Passages

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

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing God's sovereignty over all history humble our pride?
2. What does it mean that even pagan success serves God's ultimate purposes?
3. How should we understand our own achievements in light of God as ultimate cause?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּלֹא שָׁמַע עַת לָמְדָחָק אָוֹת הַעֲשֵׂה יִתְּמִימֵי מִתְּמִימֵי<sup>1</sup>  
H3808 **Hast thou not heard** H8085 **long ago** H853 **how I have done** H6213 **times** H3117

וְתָהָר בְּבָאת יְהֹוָה עַת הַבְּאָתָה יְהֹוָה  
H6924 **it and of ancient** H3335 **that I have formed** H6258 **it now have I brought** H1961

לְהַשָּׁא וְתָהָר יְמִינָה גָּלִים נָזִים עָרִים  
H7582 **it to pass that thou shouldest be to lay waste** H1530 **heaps** H5327 **into ruinous** H5892 **cities**

בְּאַרְכָּתִים  
**defended**  
H1219

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 2:23** (Parallel theme): Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

**1 Peter 2:8** (Parallel theme): And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

**Isaiah 10:15** (Parallel theme): Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.

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