

# 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

**Psalms 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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הָלוֹא	שָׁמַעְתָּ	לְמַחֲזֹק	אוֹתָהּ	עָשָׂה יְתִי	מִיָּמִי
H3808	Hast thou not heard	long ago	H853	how I have done	times
	H8085	H7350		H6213	H3117
וְדָם	וַיַּצַּרְתָּ יְהוָה	עַתָּה	הַבֵּאתָ יְהוָה	וְתָהּ י	
it and of ancient	that I have formed	H6258	it now have I brought	H1961	
H6924	H3335		H935		
לְהַשָּׂא וְ		גְּלִי	נָצַח	עָרִים	
it to pass that thou shouldst be to lay waste		heaps	into ruinous	cities	
H7582		H1530	H5327	H5892	
בְּצָרוֹת:					
defenced					
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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