

Isaiah 37:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria,
He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor
come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

Analysis

The prophecy "he shall not come into this city" is unambiguous—Sennacherib will not enter Jerusalem. The specifics "nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it" enumerate siege tactics that won't happen. This detailed prediction demonstrates God's comprehensive protection. The precision serves as test of true prophecy—any deviation would prove Isaiah false. The absolute certainty "Thus saith the LORD" stakes divine reputation on the outcome.

Historical Context

Standard siege warfare included archery, shield walls, and siege ramps. God promises none of these will occur, a falsifiable prediction that would be dramatically fulfilled.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does God's willingness to make specific, falsifiable predictions demonstrate confidence in His power?
2. What comfort comes from God's detailed promises of protection?
3. How should fulfilled biblical prophecy strengthen our trust in unfulfilled promises?

Interlinear Text

אֲשׁוּר מֶלֶךְ אֶל יְהוָה אָמַר כֹּה לְךָ |
H804 H4428 H413 H3068 H559 H3541 H3651
Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria

שֶׁם יוֹכֵה וְלֹא הִזְאת אֶל יְבוֹא לֹא
H8033 H3384 H3808 H2063 H5892 H413 H935 H3808
He shall not come into this city nor shoot

עַל יָהּ יִשְׁפֹּךְ וְלֹא מִגֵּן יִקְדֹּם נָה וְלֹא חֵץ
H5921 H8210 H3808 H4043 H6923 H3808 H2671
an arrow there nor come before it with shields nor cast

סִלְלָה:
a bank
H5550