

Isaiah 47:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee.

Analysis

The taunt 'Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels' exposes how multiplication of human wisdom increases confusion rather than clarity. The progression (astrologers, stargazers, monthly prognosticators) shows desperate resort to increasingly specific divination as crisis looms. Isaiah's sarcasm 'Let now the astrologers...save thee' demonstrates that those who reject God's free revelation must laboriously purchase false alternatives.

Historical Context

Babylon's astronomical observations were accurate enough to predict eclipses, yet this scientific achievement was integrated into astrological superstition. The 'monthly prognosticators' refers to those who determined lucky/unlucky days based on moon phases.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the multiplication of self-help advice, therapy options, and life coaches today parallel Babylon's weary counsel-seeking?
2. What is the difference between godly wisdom and the wearying multiplication of human counsel?

Interlinear Text

נְלֵא יֵת	בְּרַב	עֲצֹתַיִךְ	יַעֲמִדוּ	וְנִא	וַיִּוְשִׁיעַךְ
Thou art wearied	in the multitude	of thy counsels	stand up	H4994	and save
H3811	H7230	H6098	H5975		H3467
הִבְרִיאוּ	שְׁמֵי יָם	הַחֹזִים	בֵּן וְכֶבֶד יָם	מְוֹדְעִים	
Let now the astrologers	H8064	the stargazers	H3556	prognosticators	
H1895		H2374		H3045	
מֵאֲשֶׁר לְחֹדֶשׁ יָם	יְבֹאוּ	עֲלֶיךָ:			
the monthly	H834	thee from these things that shall come		H5921	
H2320		H935			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 44:25 (Parallel theme): That frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh diviners mad; that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish;

Isaiah 57:10 (Parallel theme): Thou art wearied in the greatness of thy way; yet saidst thou not, There is no hope: thou hast found the life of thine hand; therefore thou wast not grieved.

Jeremiah 51:58 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.

Ezekiel 24:12 (Parallel theme): She hath wearied herself with lies, and her great scum went not forth out of her: her scum shall be in the fire.

