

Isaiah 47:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou saidst, I shall be a lady for ever: so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it.

Analysis

Babylon's boast 'I shall be a lady for ever' reveals the presumption of permanence that characterizes all worldly kingdoms. The failure to 'lay these things to thy heart' or 'remember the latter end' exposes spiritual blindness to God's judgment. This warning applies to all who think their prosperity or power is self-derived and permanent rather than God-granted and conditional.

Historical Context

Babylon's confidence rested on military might, economic dominance, and religious prestige. Her 400-year dominance (roughly 900-539 BC) seemed to validate permanence claims, yet God's judgment came suddenly 'in one day' (v. 9).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What areas of your life do you assume will last 'forever' without considering God's sovereign purposes?

2. How does regularly 'remembering the latter end' (mortality, judgment) affect present priorities?

Interlinear Text

וַתֹּאמֶר י	לְעוֹלָם	אֶהְיֶה	גַּבְרִית	עַד	לֹא
And thou saidst	for ever	H1961	I shall be a lady	H5704	H3808
H559	H5769		H1404		
שֶׁמָהְיָה	עַל	אֵלֶּה	לִבִּי	לֹא	
so that thou didst not lay	H428	H5921	these things to thy heart	H3808	
H7760			H3820		
וְזָכַרְתָּ	אֶחְרֵיתָהּ:				
neither didst remember	the latter end				
H2142	H319				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 32:29 (Parallel theme): O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!

Isaiah 47:5 (Parallel theme): Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms.

Jeremiah 5:31 (Parallel theme): The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?