

Jeremiah 11:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Analysis

This verse reveals conspiracy: 'And the LORD said unto me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.' The Hebrew *qesher* (קְשֵׁר, conspiracy, treason) indicates organized rebellion against divine covenant. This isn't individual sin but coordinated covenant violation. The conspiracy involves both rural Judah and urban Jerusalem—comprehensive apostasy. The legal language of 'found' (nimtsa) suggests discovery of treasonous plot. When a vassal conspires against their suzerain, the treaty consequences are triggered. Judah's organized idolatry constitutes treason against their covenant Lord.

Historical Context

The concept of covenant as treaty makes 'conspiracy' appropriate language—breaking covenant with YHWH parallels political treason. The conspiracy may refer specifically to the organized Baal worship Josiah's reforms uncovered, or more broadly to the systemic apostasy pervading all levels of society. Either way, this wasn't accidental drift but deliberate, coordinated rebellion.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does viewing widespread sin as 'conspiracy' against God intensify the seriousness of collective apostasy?
2. What does the discovery of organized rebellion reveal about sin's tendency toward systematic, coordinated resistance to God?

Interlinear Text

בָּא יָשָׁב	בְּיַד אַחֲרֵי	אֵל	יְהִי הָעֵד	תָּמָצָא	יְהִי הַשְׁרָדָה
said	And the LORD	H413	is found	unto me A conspiracy	among the men
H559	H3068		H4672	H7195	H376
וּבְיַשְׁבָּה	יְהֹוָה הָעֵד	וּבְיַשְׁבָּה	רֹשֶׁלֶם		
of Judah	and among the inhabitants	H3427	of Jerusalem	H3389	
H3063					

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 6:9 (Parallel theme): And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.

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?

Jeremiah 6:13 (Parallel theme): For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

Jeremiah 8:10 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall inherit them: for every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

Matthew 26:15 (Parallel theme): And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

John 11:53 (Parallel theme): Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.

Micah 3:11 (References Lord): The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us.

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