

Jeremiah 13:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.

Analysis

This verse intensifies judgment: 'And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD.' The Hebrew naphats (נָפַת, dash, shatter) applies to pottery broken by smashing against surfaces or each other. Filled vessels dashed together produce mutual destruction. 'Fathers and sons together' (avoth ubanim yachdav) indicates generational destruction without mercy. 'I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.' Three negations (lo, lo, lo) emphasize no reprieve: no pity (chamal), no sparing (chus), no mercy (racham). Complete, pitiless destruction. The verse reveals judgment's comprehensive finality.

Historical Context

The siege of Jerusalem (588-586 BC) produced exactly this: fathers and sons dying together, families destroyed, comprehensive devastation without mercy. Lamentations describes the horrors: starvation, violence, death across all ages. The warning of pitiless destruction, given decades before fulfillment, emphasizes that judgment wasn't arbitrary but announced in advance.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does the pottery imagery (dashing vessels together) add to the judgment description?
2. How do the three negations (no pity, spare, or mercy) intensify the severity of announced judgment?

Interlinear Text

וְפָגַת יְמִינָה וְפָאָב וְתָ	אַל אֵשׁ	אַחֲרֵי יְ	אַחֲרֵי אֲלֹהִים	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ וְאַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ וְאַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ
And I will dash	them one	H413	against another	even the fathers	and the sons	
H5310	H376		H251	H1	H1121	
וְאַל אֵשׁ	אַחֲרֵי יְ	אַחֲרֵי אֲלֹהִים	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ וְאַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ וְאַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ	אַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ וְאַחֲרֵי אֲבָתֵּינוּ
together	saith	the LORD	H3808	I will not pity	nor spare	
H3162	H5002	H3068		H2550	H3808	H2347
אַבְנֵת מִמְּשִׁיחֵיכְם:	אַבְנֵת מִמְּשִׁיחֵיכְם:					
nor have mercy	but destroy					
H7355	H7843					

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 29:20 (References Lord): The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven.

Psalms 2:9 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Isaiah 27:11 (Grace): When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour.

Jeremiah 6:21 (References Lord): Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish.

Jeremiah 21:7 (Grace): And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.