

# Jeremiah 13:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.

## Analysis

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This verse announces scattering: 'Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.' 'Stubble' (qash) is the lightweight chaff left after threshing—blown away by wind. 'Wind of the wilderness' (ruach midbar) is the hot, dry desert wind that carries stubble away completely. Israel will be scattered (patsats) like worthless chaff, carried away by judgment's wind, unable to resist. The agricultural imagery emphasizes both worthlessness (stubble, not grain) and helplessness (blown by wind beyond control).

## Historical Context

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Chaff/stubble imagery for the wicked appears throughout Scripture (Psalm 1:4, Isaiah 17:13, Hosea 13:3). The threshing floor separated valuable grain from worthless chaff; wind carried chaff away. Israel, having become worthless through sin, would be similarly scattered. The exile fulfilled this exactly—population dispersed throughout the Babylonian Empire like chaff on wind.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. What does the stubble/chaff imagery indicate about the worthlessness of covenant-violating Israel?
2. How does scattering by wind picture the helplessness of judgment?

## Interlinear Text

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לֹר וְנִ  
עֲזָבָר  
כְּלֹא  
וְאַפִּיכָּה  
Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind  
H6327 H7179 H5674 H7307  
מִדְבָּר:  
of the wilderness  
H4057

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 1:4** (Parallel theme): The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

**Leviticus 26:33** (Parallel theme): And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.

**Ezekiel 5:12** (Parallel theme): A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

**Ezekiel 5:2** (Parallel theme): Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled: and thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them.

**Hosea 13:3** (Parallel theme): Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

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