

Jeremiah 13:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face, that thy shame may appear.

Analysis

This verse announces shameful exposure: 'Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face, that thy shame may appear.' 'Discover thy skirts' (chasaphti shulayikh) means to expose what should be covered—lifting garments over the face to expose genitals. 'That thy shame may appear' (nir'ah qeloneikh) makes humiliation public. This was how captors treated conquered women—stripping and humiliating. The language of sexual exposure applied to personified Jerusalem/Judah represents ultimate public disgrace. Their spiritual adultery (idolatry) produces physical humiliation (captivity's shame).

Historical Context

Prophetic literature frequently uses sexual exposure imagery for judgment (Isaiah 47:2-3, Ezekiel 16:37-39, 23:10, 26-29, Nahum 3:5). The metaphor connects spiritual 'adultery' (idolatry) with literal sexual shame (conquest's degradation). Women's sexual violation during conquest was tragically common; the prophecy warns that spiritual unfaithfulness produces such physical consequences.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the exposure imagery connect spiritual adultery (idolatry) with physical consequences (captivity's shame)?
2. What does public humiliation reveal about sin's ultimate exposure?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּרְא אָהָרֹן וְבָנָיו וְגַם אֶת־
H1571 H589 Therefore will I discover thy skirts
H2834 H7757 H5921 upon thy face
H6440 H7200 may appear

וְלֹא־
that thy shame
H7036

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 2:10 (Parallel theme): And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

Lamentations 1:8 (Parallel theme): Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed: all that honoured her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness: yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.

Ezekiel 23:29 (Parallel theme): And they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour, and shall leave thee naked and bare: and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms.

Ezekiel 16:37 (Parallel theme): Behold, therefore I will gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure, and all them that thou hast loved, with all them that thou hast hated; I will even gather them round about against thee, and will discover thy nakedness unto them, that they may see all thy nakedness.