

Jeremiah 14:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

Analysis

Jeremiah protests: 'Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.' This explains the people's complacency: false prophets contradict Jeremiah's warnings, promising 'assured peace' (Hebrew 'shalom emet'—true, reliable peace). Jeremiah appeals to God, effectively saying the people have been misled. This raises the problem of competing prophetic voices—how can people discern true from false? The false prophets' message was more pleasant but ultimately deadly, while Jeremiah's harsh message, though rejected, was true and life-saving for those who heeded.

Historical Context

False prophets like Hananiah (Jeremiah 28) contradicted Jeremiah's warnings, promising swift deliverance from Babylon. Their optimistic lies were more popular but proved catastrophically wrong.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How can believers discern true from false prophetic voices today?
2. Why is the more pleasant message often false while harsh truth is rejected?
3. What responsibility do false teachers bear for those they mislead?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר יְהוָה הִנֵּה הָאֲדֹנָי אָהָה אָמַר יְהוָה
Then said I Ah Lord GOD H2009 behold the prophets Then said
H559 H162 H136 H3069 H5030 H559

לָא לָא תִרְאֶה וְכֶסֶף רֶב
H0 H3808 unto them Ye shall not see the sword neither shall ye have famine
H7200 H2719 H7458

לָא יְהוָה לָא כִּי שָׁלוֹם אָמַת אֶתְּ אֶתְּ לָא
H3808 H1961 H0 H3588 peace you assured but I will give H0
H7965 H571 H5414

הִנֵּה: בְּמָקוֹם
in this place H2088
H4725

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 6:14 (Peace): They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

2 Peter 2:1 (Prophecy): But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

Jeremiah 4:10 (Word): Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! surely thou hast greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall have peace; whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul.

Jeremiah 23:17 (Peace): They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

Micah 3:11 (Prophecy): 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.

Jeremiah 8:11 (Peace): For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

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