

Jeremiah 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas:
I have brought upon them against the mother of the young
men a spoiler at noonday: I have caused him to fall upon it
suddenly, and terrors upon the city.

Analysis

This verse quantifies widow suffering: 'Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas.' The Hebrew rabbu (רַבָּ, increased, multiplied) with 'above the sand of the seas' (mechol yammim) indicates innumerable widows—mass male mortality in warfare. 'I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday.' The 'mother' (em bachur) represents families losing their young men. 'Spoiler at noonday' (shodded batsohorayim) indicates attack in broad daylight—no hiding, no escape, no night protection. 'I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly, and terrors upon the city.' Sudden (pitom) attack brings terror (behaloth). The psychological impact of sudden destruction compounds physical devastation.

Historical Context

Ancient warfare regularly left massive widow populations. Young men died in battle; women survived into widowhood. 'Spoiler at noonday' indicates attacks so bold they occur in broad daylight—no need for stealth when victory is certain. Babylon's conquest created this situation exactly: Jerusalem's young men died defending walls; their mothers became widows overnight.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does 'widows more than sand of the seas' indicate about warfare's human cost?
2. How does 'noonday' attack emphasize the invader's overwhelming power?

Interlinear Text

הַבְּ אֶתְּנָהָרָה	יְמֵי יָם	מִחְּ וְلָא	אֶלְמִנּוֹתָהָו	לְעֵצְמוֹתָהָו	עֵצְמוֹתָהָו	אֶתְּנָהָרָה	הַבְּ אֶתְּנָהָרָה
are increased	H6105	H0	Their widows	H2344	to me above the sand	H3220	I have brought
upon them	H1992	H5921	against the mother	H517	of the young men	H970	a spoiler
at noonday	H6672	H5307	I have caused him to fall	H5921	upon it suddenly	H6597	upon the city
and terrors	H928						
וְכָלֹות:							