

Jeremiah 16:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not shew you favour.

Analysis

The sentence pronounced: 'Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; for I will not shew you favour.' The punishment fits the crime: they chose other gods, so they'll be exiled to serve them exclusively. The ironic justice: in the foreign land they'll serve pagan gods 'day and night' without Yahweh's interference. The land 'ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers' emphasizes total disorientation. The final phrase 'I will not shew you favour' indicates withdrawal of covenant mercy. This judgment demonstrates that persistent idol pursuit results in abandonment to idols.

Historical Context

In Babylonian exile, Jews were surrounded by pagan worship and tempted to assimilate. The ironic judgment gave them what they'd chosen—life dominated by other gods without Yahweh's protective presence.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's judgment often involve giving people over to what they've chosen?
2. What does exile to unknown lands represent about the disorientation of life apart from God?
3. What is the significance of God withdrawing favor as part of judgment?

Interlinear Text

בָּאֵץ עַל הַזָּאת בָּאֵץ מִעַל וְהַטְלַת	Therefore will I cast	H2904	אֶתְכֶם מִעַל	H853	H5921	בָּאֵץ מִעַל	into a land	H2063	בָּאֵץ עַל	H5921	into a land	H776
לֹא אָשֶׁר יְדַעְתָּם אֶתְכֶם	that ye know	H3808	לֹא אָשֶׁר יְדַעְתָּם אֶתְכֶם	H3045	H859	וְאֶבְוֹתִיכֶם	not neither ye nor your fathers	H1				
וְעַבְדָּתֶם אֱלֹהִים אֲחֶרְךָם	and there shall ye serve	H5647	וְעַבְדָּתֶם אֱלֹהִים אֲחֶרְךָם	H8033	H853	אֱלֹהִים אֲחֶרְךָם	gods other	H430	וְיֻמָּתְהוּ בְּיָמָיָה וְלֹא יְמִינָה	H312	day and night	H3915
לֹא אָשֶׁר רְאָתָם לֹא אָשֶׁר רְאָתָם	where I will not shew	H3808	לֹא אָשֶׁר רְאָתָם	H5414	H0	לֹא כִּי	you favour	H2594				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 28:36 (References God): The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone.

Jeremiah 15:14 (Parallel theme): And I will make thee to pass with thine enemies into a land which thou knowest not: for a fire is kindled in mine anger, which shall burn upon you.

Jeremiah 17:4 (Parallel theme): And thou, even thyself, shalt discontinue from thine heritage that I gave thee; and I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not: for ye have kindled a fire in mine anger, which shall burn for ever.

2 Chronicles 7:20 (Parallel theme): Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations.

Psalms 81:12 (Parallel theme): So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels.

Jeremiah 22:28 (Parallel theme): Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol? is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure? wherefore are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land which they know not?

Jeremiah 14:8 (Parallel theme): O the hope of Israel, the saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?

Jeremiah 6:15 (Parallel theme): Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

Jeremiah 5:19 (References God): And it shall come to pass, when ye shall say, Wherefore doeth the LORD our God all these things unto us? then shalt thou answer them, Like as ye have forsaken me, and served strange gods in your land, so shall ye serve strangers in a land that is not your's.

Jeremiah 15:4 (Parallel theme): And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem.