

# Jeremiah 21:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the LORD: and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof, and it shall devour all things round about it.

## Analysis

God will kindle fire in Jerusalem's 'forest' (likely referring to Solomon's 'house of the forest of Lebanon' - 1 Kings 7:2) that will 'devour all things round about it.' Fire frequently symbolizes God's judgment (Deut 32:22). This comprehensive destruction spares nothing - a complete purging of sin's effects. The warning fulfills Moses' prophecy of covenant curses.

## Historical Context

This was literally fulfilled when Babylon burned Jerusalem's buildings, including the temple and royal structures. The city became desolate ruins.

## Related Passages

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What does fire imagery teach about the thorough nature of God's judgment?
2. How does God sometimes need to burn away what we've built to start fresh?

## Interlinear Text

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נָאַם	מְעַלְּלִיכָּם	וְפָקַדְתָּ	כִּפְרָתִים	עַלְּיכָם	בְּעֵלָתֶךָ	וְעַלְּיכָם	בְּעֵלָתֶךָ	וְעַלְּיכָם	וְעַלְּיכָם	וְעַלְּיכָם	וְעַלְּיכָם
But I will punish			you according to the fruit		of your doings		saith				
H6485	H5921		H6529		H4611		H5002				
the LORD	and I will kindle		a fire	in the forest	thereof and it shall devour						
H3068	H3341		H784	H3293	H398		H3605				
סְבִּיבִים:											
all things round about											
	H5439										

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 1:31** (Parallel theme): Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

**Jeremiah 32:19** (Parallel theme): Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:

**Jeremiah 17:10** (References Lord): I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

**Jeremiah 52:13** (References Lord): And burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, and all the houses of the great men, burned he with fire:

**2 Chronicles 36:19** (Parallel theme): And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof.

**Jeremiah 9:25** (References Lord): Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised;

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