

Jeremiah 24:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

Analysis

The 'good figs' represent the exiles in Babylon - those whom God would preserve and restore. Paradoxically, those who seemed judged (exiled) were actually recipients of God's special care, while those who remained in Jerusalem faced worse judgment. God's perspective inverts human wisdom. The promise 'I will set mine eyes upon them for good' echoes His covenant commitment despite circumstances.

Historical Context

This vision came after the first deportation to Babylon in 597 BC, when King Jehoiachin and Jerusalem's leadership were exiled. Those remaining in Jerusalem under Zedekiah considered themselves fortunate, but God's perspective differed.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God sometimes use apparent setbacks for your ultimate good?
2. What does this teach about trusting God's hidden purposes during difficult seasons?

Interlinear Text

כֹּה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	כִּתְּאֵנּוּ	יָם	לְטוֹבָה:
H3541	Thus saith	the LORD	the God	of Israel	figs		Like these good
	H559	H3068	H430	H3478	H8384		H2896
הָאֵל	כֵּן	אֶכְיָר	אֶת	גָּל	וְ	וְ	
H428	H3651	so will I acknowledge	H853	them that are	carried away	captive	
		H5234					H1546
יְהוּדָה	אֲשֶׁר	שָׁלַחְתִּי	מִן	הַמָּקוֹם	הַזֶּה	אֶרֶץ	
of Judah	H834	whom I have sent	H4480	out of this place	H2088	into the land	
H3063		H7971		H4725		H776	
כַּשְׂדִּי	יָם	לְטוֹבָה:					
of the Chaldeans		Like these good					
H3778		H2896					

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 13:9 (References God): And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Nahum 1:7 (Good): The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.