

Jeremiah 24:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them.

Analysis

And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse (וַיִּתְּתִים לְעֵצָה וּלְקִלְלָה מַמְלֶכְהוֹת הָאָרֶץ לְחֶרְפָּה וּלְמִשָּׁל לִשְׁנִינָה וּלְקִלְלָה, un'tattim l'za'avah l'ra'ah l'khol mamlekhhot ha'arets l'cherpah ul'mashal lishnina v'liqlalah). The fourfold designation—reproach (חֶרְפָּה), proverb (מִשָּׁל), taunt (שְׁנִינָה), curse (קִלְלָה)—emphasizes comprehensive infamy. They would become object lessons of divine judgment, scattered **for their hurt** (לְרָעָה, l'ra'ah—'for evil/harm').

This reverses Abrahamic covenant promises. God promised Abraham 'I will make thy name great' (Genesis 12:2) and bless the nations through his seed. Now Judah becomes a byword for cursing among nations. The verb נָתַן (natan, 'deliver/give') indicates active divine agency—God Himself scatters them as warning to others. Their suffering serves pedagogical purposes for surrounding nations, demonstrating covenant curse's reality.

Historical Context

This prophecy found fulfillment in multiple stages: Jerusalem's 586 BC destruction, Gedaliah's assassination leading to Egyptian flight (Jeremiah 40-44), and eventual Babylonian campaigns into Egypt (568 BC). Jewish refugees became proverbial examples of divine judgment, their fate warning others about covenant rebellion. This reputation persisted through subsequent exiles under Rome (70 AD, 135 AD).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How might your disobedience make you a negative example warning others?
2. What does it mean to be a 'proverb' or cautionary tale in your community?
3. How does God use visible judgment to teach others about covenant consequences?

Interlinear Text

וְנִתַּתִּים	לְזַעַ ה	לְרָעָ ה	לָכֵ ל	מִמְּלָכֹ וְת
And I will deliver	H2113	for their hurt	H3605	into all the kingdoms
H5414		H7451		H4467
הָאָרֶץ	לְחֹרֵפָּ ה	וּלְמִשָּׁל	לְשֹׁנֵי ה	וּלְקִלְלָ ה
of the earth	to be a reproach	and a proverb	a taunt	and a curse
H776	H2781	H4912	H8148	H3605
וְהָאָרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	אֲדִיחַ מִ	שָׁמָּה	
in all places	H834	whither I shall drive	H8033	
H4725		H5080		

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 15:4 (Kingdom): 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.

Jeremiah 29:18 (Kingdom): And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the

kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and an hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them:

Deuteronomy 28:37 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.

Jeremiah 34:17 (Kingdom): Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbour: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the LORD, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

1 Kings 9:7 (Parallel theme): Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people:

Isaiah 65:15 (Curse): And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name:

Jeremiah 29:22 (Kingdom): And of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, The LORD make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;

Jeremiah 25:18 (Kingdom): To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse; as it is this day;

Jeremiah 26:6 (Curse): Then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.

Deuteronomy 28:25 (Kingdom): The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.