

Jeremiah 25:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.

Analysis

Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you. This verse intensifies the cup imagery with graphic effects. The imperatives šēṭû wěšikrû ûqî'û ûniplû wělo' ṯāqûmû (שֶׁתוּ וְשָׁכְרוּ וְקִיאוּ וְנִפְּלוּ וְלֹא תָקוּמוּ, drink, be drunken, vomit, fall, and rise no more) depict complete helplessness. Drunkenness represents loss of control and rationality; vomiting suggests violent rejection but inability to escape; falling with no rising pictures permanent defeat.

The finality of wělo' ṯāqûmû (וְלֹא תָקוּמוּ, and rise no more) emphasizes irreversible judgment. This isn't temporary discipline but ultimate destruction. The phrase mipnê haḥereḇ 'ăšher 'ānōkî shōlēaḥ bēnêkē (מִפְּנֵי הַחֶרֶב אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי שֹׁלֵחַ בֵּינֵיכֶם, because of the sword which I send among you) reiterates God's active agency in judgment. This imagery of God's cup making nations drunk appears in Revelation: 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen...for all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication' (Revelation 14:8, 18:3). The final judgment will be comprehensive, irreversible, and divinely ordained.

Historical Context

This graphic imagery describes the collapse of nations under Babylonian conquest. Survivors reported the horror—cities destroyed, populations massacred or enslaved, civilizations ended. For some nations (like Edom), the judgment was permanent—they never recovered. For others (like Judah), temporary exile preceded restoration. The difference depended on God's sovereign purposes. The imagery of nations 'falling never to rise' found fulfillment in peoples that disappeared from history: Philistines, Edomites, Moabites, Ammonites—all extinct as distinct peoples.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this graphic imagery—drunkenness, vomiting, falling—emphasize the complete helplessness of those facing God's judgment?
2. What does the finality of 'rise no more' teach about the irreversibility of divine judgment on those who persistently reject God?
3. How should these warnings of certain, irreversible judgment motivate urgency in evangelism and personal repentance?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	כֹּה אֵלֶיָּהּ ׀	אָמַר	יְהוָה
Therefore thou shalt say	H413 H3541	Therefore thou shalt say	the LORD
H559		H559	H3068
וְנָפַל ׀ וְקִי ׀ וְשָׁכְרוּ	שֵׁת ׀ וְיִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאלֹהֵי יְצָבָא וְתִ		
and fall	and spue	ye and be drunken	Drink
H5307	H7006	H7937	H8354
			H3478
			H430
			H6635
אֲנֹכִי יִאָּשֶׁר רֵב הַחֶרֶב	מִפְּנֵי יִתְקַן וּמוֹ יֵלֵא		
H595	H834	of the sword	no more because
		H2719	H6440
			H6965
			H3808
			and rise
			H7971
			which I will send
			H996
			בִּינִיכֶם:
			שֶׁל ׀

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 25:16 (Word): And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them.

Habakkuk 2:16 (References Lord): Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the LORD'S right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory.

Isaiah 51:21 (Parallel theme): Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted, and drunken, but not with wine:

Lamentations 4:21 (Parallel theme): Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that dwellest in the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee: thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.