

Jeremiah 27:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

Analysis

God declares judgment on any nation that refuses to serve Babylon: sword, famine, and pestilence until consumed. This seems to reward submission to evil, but it recognizes God's sovereign appointment of Nebuchadnezzar for that historical moment. Wisdom discerns God's will in specific circumstances rather than applying general principles inappropriately. Resistance to God's appointed instrument brings judgment.

Historical Context

This was controversial teaching - appearing to support the enemy. Yet it was God's word for that time. Judah's role was to submit to discipline, not resist it.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do you discern when to resist evil and when to submit to God's disciplinary purposes?
2. What does this teach about God's sovereignty over historical circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה הַ	הַ	וְהַמְּלָכָה	אֲשֶׁר	לֹא
H1961		H4467	H834	H3808
And it shall come to pass that the nation and kingdom				
	H1471			
וְיַעֲבֹד וְ	אֶת	נְבוּכַדְנֶאצַּר	מֶלֶךְ	בָּבֶל
H5647	H853	H5019	H4428	H894
which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar of the king of Babylon				
לֹא	וְיָתֵן	אֶת	צִנּוֹר וְ	בַּעַל
H853	H5414	H853	H6677	H5923
and that will not put their neck under the yoke				
מֶלֶךְ	בָּבֶל	בַּחֶרֶב	וּבְרָעָב	וּבַדְּבַר
H4428	H894	H2719	H7458	H1698
of the king of Babylon with the sword and with the famine and with the pestilence				
אֶפְקֹד	הַ	וְהָיָה	הַהוּא	נֹאמֵר
H6485	H5921	H1471	H1931	H5002
will I punish And it shall come to pass that the nation saith				
יְהוָה	עַד	תִּמְכֹּל	אֶת	בְּיָדוֹ
H3068	H5704	H8552	H853	H3027
the LORD until I have consumed them by his hand				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 24:10 (Word): And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.

Ezekiel 14:21 (Word): For thus saith the Lord GOD; How much more when I send my four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword, and the famine, and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast?

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