

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

וְיֻכַּל	הַגְּדוֹלָה	וְהַמַּמְלָכָה	לֹא	אֲשֶׁר	וְהַמַּמְלָכָה	לֹא
H1961	And it shall come to pass that the nation	and kingdom	H834	H3808		
	H1471		H4467			
וְיַעֲבֹד	אֵת	נְבוּכָדְנָזָר	מִלְּדוֹת	וְיַעֲבֹד	אֵת	בָּבֶל
which will not serve	H853	the same Nebuchadnezzar	of the king	of Babylon	H4428	H894
H5647	H853	H5019	H4428	H894		
לֹא	אֲשֶׁר	אֵת	צְבָאָר	לֹא	בָּעֵל	
H853	H834	H3808	and that will not put	H853	their neck	under the yoke
		H5414		H6677		H5923
וְיַעֲבֹד	בָּבֶל	בִּחְרָב	וְבִרְכָּעַ בְּ		וְבִדְקָנָה	
of the king	of Babylon	with the sword	and with the famine		and with the pestilence	
H4428	H894	H2719	H7458		H1698	
עַל	אַפְלָקָת	הַגְּדוֹלָה		נָאָמֵן	בְּהָא	
will I punish	H5921	And it shall come to pass that the nation		H1931	saith	
H6485		H1471		H5002		
עַד	יְהִי הָ	תָּמִימָה	אֲתָם	בְּיָדָוָה		
the LORD	H5704	until I have consumed	H853	them by his hand		
H3068		H8552		H3027		

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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