

Jeremiah 32:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it:

Analysis

Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans—God answers Jeremiah by confirming the judgment. The divine passive **I will give** (נָתַן אֶנֶכִּי) emphasizes God's active sovereignty; Babylon is merely His instrument. **Nebuchadrezzar** (נְבוּכַדְרֶאצַּר)—the Hebrew spelling—is identified as God's appointed agent, called 'my servant' in Jeremiah 25:9.

The phrase **he shall take it** uses lakad (לָקַד, capture/seize), the same verb for capturing prey. This military certainty wasn't fatalism but prophetic realism based on covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28:49-52). God's sovereignty over pagan empires demonstrates that human history unfolds under divine providence, not chaos. Romans 13:1 echoes this: 'there is no authority except from God.'

Historical Context

Nebuchadnezzar II (605-562 BC) besieged Jerusalem three times (605, 597, 587 BC). The 587 BC siege, referenced here, culminated in the city's destruction and the temple's burning. Despite being a pagan tyrant, God used him to execute covenant judgment on Judah's idolatry.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's sovereignty over pagan rulers challenge modern notions of political power?
2. When has God used difficult circumstances or 'enemies' to discipline or refine you?
3. Does recognizing God's hand in judgment lead you to repentance or resentment?

Interlinear Text

אֶת	נִתֵּן	הַנֶּגֶז י'	יְהוָה	אָמַר	כֹּה לְךָ
H853	H5414	H2005	H3068	H559	H3541
	Behold I will give		the LORD	Therefore thus saith	
					H3651
וְכִדְּ	וְכִדְּ	הַכַּשְׂדִּים	וְכִדְּ	הַזֶּאת	אֶת
H3027	H3027	H3778	H3027	H2063	H5892
	and into the hand	of the Chaldeans	and into the hand		this city
וְלִכְדָּהּ	בָּבֶל	לְ	מֶלֶךְ	נְבוּכַדְרֶצַּר	
H3920	H894		H4428	H5019	
and he shall take	of Babylon		king	of Nebuchadrezzar	

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 32:3 (Kingdom): For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, Wherefore dost thou prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

Jeremiah 32:24 (Parallel theme): Behold the mounts, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans, that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence: and what thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, thou seest it.

Jeremiah 32:36 (Kingdom): And now therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city, whereof ye say, It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence;

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