

Jeremiah 35:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.

Analysis

Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel—The full title (הנָּנוּ מֶבֶא אֱלֹהָיֶךָ...אֵת כָּל־) Yahweh Elohei Tzeva'ot Elohei Yisra'el) combines covenant name (Yahweh), military sovereignty (God of hosts/armies), and relationship (God of Israel). The comprehensive title underscores that judgment comes from Israel's own covenant God, not a foreign deity.

Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them (הִנֵּנִי מֶבֶא אֱלֹהָיֶךָ...אֵת כָּל־) hineni mevi el-Yehudah...et kol-hara'ah asher dibarti aleihem)—Hineni ('behold') marks solemn divine decree. **Because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered**—The double indictment (not hearing, not answering) seals Judah's doom. God's patient appeals exhausted, covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28) activate.

Historical Context

This pronouncement anticipated the 586 BC Babylonian destruction: Jerusalem's walls breached, temple burned, population exiled, Davidic throne suspended. The

'evil' (ra'ah) fulfilled covenant warnings Moses gave 800 years earlier—disobedience triggers curse. The severity matches the privilege: to whom much revelation is given, much accountability is required (Luke 12:48).

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's exhaustion of appeals ('I have spoken...I have called') before judgment warn you not to presume on His patience indefinitely?
2. What 'evil that I have pronounced' (consequences of sin) are you inviting by refusing to hear and answer God's current calls to repentance?
3. In what ways does the certainty of God's judgment ('Behold, I will bring') motivate you toward urgent obedience rather than presumptuous delay?

Interlinear Text

אֱלֹהִים אֶצְבָּאוֹת כִּי לֹא כִּי
H3651 H3541 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts God
H559 H3068 H430 H6635 H430

כָּל וְאֶל יְהוָה הַנְּתָן יְשָׁרָאֵל
of Israel H2005 Behold I will bring upon Judah H413 H3605
H3478 H935 H3063

אֲשֶׁר בְּבָעֵד כָּל אֶת יְרוּשָׁלָם
and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem H853 H3605 all the evil H834
H3427 H3389 H7451

דְּבַר רָתָי
against them because I have spoken H1696
H5921 H3282

דְּבַר רָתָי
against them because I have spoken H1696
H413 H3808

וְלֹא לִפְנֵי מֵשֶׁת עוֹד
unto them but they have not heard and I have called H8085 H7121 H0 H3808

עָתָה:
unto them but they have not answered H6030

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 66:4 (Evil): I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

Romans 10:21 (References Israel): But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

Isaiah 65:12 (Evil): Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not.

Proverbs 16:2 (References Lord): All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weighth the spirits.

Jeremiah 7:13 (References Lord): And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not;

Isaiah 50:2 (Parallel theme): Wherefore, when I came, was there no man? when I called, was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst.

Proverbs 13:13 (Parallel theme): Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

Jeremiah 11:8 (Evil): Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not.

Jeremiah 32:33 (Parallel theme): And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

Jeremiah 26:5 (Parallel theme): To hearken to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent unto you, both rising up early, and sending them, but ye have not hearkened;