

Jeremiah 40:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now the LORD hath brought it, and done according as he hath said: because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing is come upon you.

Analysis

The Babylonian captain Nebuzaradan demonstrates better theological insight than Judah's leaders - he recognizes the fall of Jerusalem as God's judgment for sin. Pagan officials sometimes see God's hand in events more clearly than His own people. This echoes Christ's observation that judgment begins with the household of God (1 Pet 4:17). Unbelievers' recognition of God's judgment increases accountability.

Historical Context

Nebuzaradan's speech is remarkable - a pagan military officer preaching judgment to God's people. His words echo Jeremiah's prophecies, showing they were widely known.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does unbelievers' recognition of God's judgment affect your witness?

2. What does this passage teach about God's sovereignty even over pagan rulers?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא	וַיַּעַשׂ	לַיהוָה	כַּאֲשֶׁר	דִּבֶּר	כִּי
hath brought	it and done	Now the LORD	H834	according as he hath said	H3588
H935	H6213	H3068		H1696	
מֵחַטְאֵת	לַיהוָה	וְלֹא	שָׁמְעוּתָם	בְּקוֹל	ו
because ye have sinned	Now the LORD	H3808	and have not obeyed	his voice	
H2398	H3068		H8085	H6963	
לָכֵן	דִּבֶּר	הַזֶּה:			
H1961	H0	therefore this thing	H2088		
		H1697			

Additional Cross-References

Romans 2:5 (Parallel theme): But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

Jeremiah 50:7 (Sin): All that found them have devoured them: and their adversaries said, We offend not, because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, even the LORD, the hope of their fathers.