

Jeremiah 42:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die.

Analysis

God warns that the sword they fear will 'overtake' them in Egypt, and the famine will 'follow close after' them. What they fear in Judah will find them in Egypt - a common biblical principle. Flight from God's will doesn't provide safety; it multiplies danger. Only obedience to God's revealed will provides genuine security, regardless of circumstances.

Historical Context

The remnant wanted to flee to Egypt for safety, but God warned that Babylon would conquer Egypt too (43:10-13). Their fears would follow them.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does running from God's will often lead to encountering what you most feared?
2. What does this teach about where true security is found?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיְתָה הַחֶרֶב אֲשֶׁר יֵרָא יָמָם אֲתָם
H1961 H834 H859 H3372
Then it shall come to pass that the sword
H2719

מִצָּר יִמְצָא יָמָם אֲתָךְ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם
H4480 H8033 H5381 H853 H776 H4714
shall overtake
you there in the land
of Egypt

וְהָרָעָב אֲשֶׁר אֶתְּמוּן דָּאֵג יָמָם אֲשֶׁר
H834 H859 H1672 H4480 H8033
and the famine
whereof ye were afraid

וְיָדְבֶקֶת יָמָם אַחֲרָיִךְ אַחֲרָיִךְ יָמָם אֲשֶׁר יָמָם אֲשֶׁר
H1692 H310 H4714 H8033 H4191
shall follow close
after
of Egypt
and there ye shall die

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 44:27 (Word): Behold, I will watch over them for evil, and not for good: and all the men of Judah that are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them.

Ezekiel 11:8 (Word): Ye have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord GOD.