

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

וְיִהְיֶה הַכֹּל כִּי אָשָׁר יְהִי אַתֶּם
H1961 Then it shall come to pass that the sword H2719 H834 H859 H3372

מִצְבֵּה יְהִי מִתְּמַמָּה שֶׁ מִתְּמַמָּה
H4480 H8033 shall overtake H5381 H853 you there in the land H776 H4714

וְיִקְרַע בְּאֶרֶץ יְהִי מִתְּמַמָּה
and the famine H834 H859 whereof ye were afraid H1672 H4480 H8033

וְיִלְבְּד קְרַעַת מִצְבֵּה יְהִי מִתְּמַמָּה
shall follow close H1692 after H310 of Egypt H4714 H8033 and there ye shall die H4191

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.