

Jeremiah 44:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore my fury and mine anger was poured forth, and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as at this day.

Analysis

Wherefore my fury and mine anger was poured forth—the consecutive watittak (and it was poured out) depicts divine wrath as liquid judgment, using the same verb for pouring out drink offerings. **Fury** (ḥāmātî) and **anger** ('appî) represent God's intense covenant response to betrayal—not capricious rage but holy indignation against covenant-breaking. **Was kindled** (wattiqad) uses fire imagery—God's wrath burns against sin (Deuteronomy 32:22; Psalm 89:46).

In the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem—the comprehensive pairing (cities/capital, Judah/Jerusalem) shows total judgment. **They are wasted and desolate, as at this day** (wayyihyû ləḥorbâ lišmāmâ kəhayyôm hazzeh)—the perfect tense with present result emphasizes ongoing devastation. The phrase kəhayyôm hazzeh (as at this very day) serves as empirical proof. God points to visible ruins as evidence that His covenant threats aren't idle. This creates the argument structure: cause (v. 3-5: idolatry) → consequence (v. 6: judgment) → continuing danger (v. 7-12: don't repeat it in Egypt).

Historical Context

The destruction of 586 BC was comprehensive. Babylonian records and archaeology confirm widespread burning and demolition. Lamentations 1-5 captures the horror. By 582 BC when Jeremiah spoke this oracle, Jerusalem remained a depopulated ruin. The phrase 'as at this day' indicates Jeremiah spoke

from Egypt while Jerusalem's ruins remained visible evidence of covenant judgment.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How should the reality of God's wrath against sin inform evangelism and discipleship?
2. What 'wastes and desolations' in church history or personal experience testify to the consequences of covenant unfaithfulness?
3. How does viewing judgment as 'poured out' and 'kindled' affect your understanding of divine justice?

Interlinear Text

בָּעֵד וַתִּתְפַּתְּךָ רַקְמָתִי אַפִּי וַתִּתְבָּעֵר
was poured forth Wherefore my fury and mine anger and was kindled in the cities
H5413 H2534 H639 H1197 H5892

לְפָרַב הַנְּהָרִים וְתַהֲרֵה יְהוּדָה וְבָצַח וְתַהֲרֵה יְהוּדָה
and they are wasted and in the streets of Jerusalem of Judah
H2723 H1961 H3389 H2351 H3063

בַּיּוֹם לְשִׁמְמָתָה כִּי
as at this day and desolate
H2088 H3117 H8077

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 51:20 (Parallel theme): Thy sons have fainted, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.

Isaiah 51:17 (References Jerusalem): Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

Jeremiah 7:20 (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched.

Jeremiah 42:18 (References Jerusalem): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As mine anger and my fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more.

Ezekiel 8:18 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them.