

Jeremiah 48:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully, and cursed be he that keepeth back his sword from blood.

Analysis

'Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully' warns against half-hearted obedience in executing God's purposes. The Hebrew 'remiyah' (deceitfully/negligently) suggests doing God's work carelessly or with mixed motives. Those called to implement God's judgment must do so thoroughly, not hesitantly. This applies broadly to all ministry - doing God's work requires wholehearted commitment, not lukewarm effort.

Historical Context

This verse was directed at those who would execute judgment on Moab. Incomplete obedience in God's appointed tasks brings curse rather than blessing.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. In what areas are you tempted to serve God half-heartedly or negligently?
2. How does God's call for wholehearted service challenge your current ministry efforts?

Interlinear Text

וְאַרְרֵךְ וְרַמְתִּי הַיְהֹוָה אֶת־הַמְּלֵאָתָה
Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully Cursed
H779 H6213 H4399 H3068 H7423 H779

מִתְּמַמָּה מִן־עַד־סְרֵבָה וְמִן־דְּםָה
be he that keepeth back his sword from blood
H4513 H2719 H1818

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 20:42 (References Lord): And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Because thou hast let go out of thy hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore thy life shall go for his life, and thy people for his people.

1 Samuel 15:3 (Parallel theme): Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and sucking, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

Judges 5:23 (Curse): Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

2 Kings 13:19 (Parallel theme): And the man of God was wroth with him, and said, Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice.

1 Samuel 15:9 (Parallel theme): But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that

was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

Jeremiah 47:6 (Word): O thou sword of the LORD, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest, and be still.

Jeremiah 50:25 (References Lord): The LORD hath opened his armoury, and hath brought forth the weapons of his indignation: for this is the work of the Lord GOD of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.

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