

# Jeremiah 48:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And judgment is come upon the plain country; upon Holon,  
and upon Jahazah, and upon Mephaath,

## Analysis

---

**And judgment is come upon the plain country** (וּמִשְׁפָּט בָּא אֶל-אֶרֶץ הַמִּישֹׁר)—Mishpat (judgment/justice) arrives on eretz hamishor (the tableland/plateau), Moab's agricultural heartland. The catalog of cities (vv. 21-24) demonstrates judgment's comprehensiveness—no town escapes. **Upon Holon, and upon Jahazah, and upon Mephaath**—These three cities represent northern Moab's settled regions.

The formulaic repetition 'upon... and upon... and upon' creates a drumbeat of inevitable judgment, city by city. This echoes Amos's oracles against nations (Amos 1-2) and anticipates Revelation's plagues (Revelation 16). Comprehensive judgment leaves no refuge—geographic spread proves God sees and judges every location, not just capitals or major centers.

## Historical Context

---

The 'plain country' (Mishor) refers to the fertile plateau east of the Dead Sea, Moab's breadbasket. Holon's location is uncertain, but Jahazah (where Israel defeated Sihon, Numbers 21:23) and Mephaath (a Levitical city, Joshua 21:37) were significant settlements. These cities had survived for centuries; their destruction marked the end of Moabite civilization as Jeremiah knew it.

## Related Passages

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

---

1. Why does God's judgment extend to every city and region, leaving no geographic refuge from accountability?
2. How does the comprehensive nature of divine judgment challenge assumptions that certain places or people are 'safe' from accountability?
3. What does the inclusion of formerly Israelite cities (like Mephaath) suggest about God's impartiality in judgment?

## Interlinear Text

---

וּמִשְׁפָּט	בָּא	אֶל	אֶרֶץ	הַמִּישֹׁר	אֶל	חֹל וְנָ	וְאֶל
And judgment	is come	H413	country	upon the plain	H413	upon Holon	H413
H4941	H935		H776	H4334		H2473	
וְהַצָּה	וְעַל	מוֹפְעַת:					
and upon Jahazah	H5921	and upon Mephaath					
H3096		H4158					

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Joshua 13:18** (Parallel theme): And Jahazah, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath,

**Isaiah 15:4** (Parallel theme): And Heshbon shall cry, and Elealeh: their voice shall be heard even unto Jahaz: therefore the armed soldiers of Moab shall cry out; his life shall be grievous unto him.

**Jeremiah 48:8** (Parallel theme): And the spoiler shall come upon every city, and no city shall escape: the valley also shall perish, and the plain shall be destroyed, as the LORD hath spoken.

**Numbers 21:23** (Parallel theme): And Sihon would not suffer Israel to pass through his border: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and went out against Israel into the wilderness: and he came to Jahaz, and fought against Israel.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)