

# Jeremiah 48:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And upon Kerioth, and upon Bozrah, and upon all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near.

## Analysis

**And upon Kerioth, and upon Bozrah, and upon all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near**—(על-קריות ועל-בצrah ועל כל-ערי אַכְזִ-מוֹאָב הַרְחָקּוֹת וַמִּקְרָבוֹת) Qeriyot (cities/Kerioth) was a major Moabite center, possibly the capital (Amos 2:2). Botsrah (fortress/sheepfold) represents southern Moab. The summary phrase 'far or near' (harechoqot vehaqrovot) emphasizes totality—distance provides no escape from divine judgment.

This comprehensive statement concludes the city catalog (vv. 21-24), moving from specific locations to universal application. Paul uses similar logic: 'There is no distinction; for all have sinned' (Romans 3:22-23). Geographic, economic, or military distinctions become irrelevant before God's impartial justice. Whether capital or village, fortress or farm, all stand equally accountable.

## Historical Context

Kerioth appears in Amos 2:2 as a target of divine judgment: 'I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth.' Bozrah (distinct from Edomite Bozrah) represented Moab's southern extent. The phrase 'far or near' indicates Babylon's thoroughness—the entire nation from northern to southern boundaries faced destruction. Archaeological evidence confirms widespread destruction of Moabite sites during the 6th century BC.

## Related Passages

---

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

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does the phrase 'far or near' challenge assumptions that distance from centers of power or visibility might exempt from divine accountability?
2. What does God's comprehensive judgment on 'all the cities' reveal about His omniscience and the impossibility of hiding from His justice?
3. In what ways should the certainty of impartial divine judgment affect how we pray for and warn both prominent and obscure communities?

## Interlinear Text

---

כָּל וְעַל וְעַל קְרִי וְתַּעֲלֵל

H5921

And upon Kerioth

H7152

בְּצָב הַ

H5921

and upon Bozrah

H1224

כָּל וְעַל

H5921

H3605

עָרִי

and upon all the cities

H5892

אֶצְבָּע

of the land

H776

בְּמוֹאָב

of Moab

H4124

פְּרַחַק

far

H7350

וְתַּמְאָב

or near

H7138

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Amos 2:2** (Parallel theme): But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet:

**Jeremiah 48:41** (Parallel theme): Kerioth is taken, and the strong holds are surprised, and the mighty men's hearts in Moab at that day shall be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

