

Jeremiah 48:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I know his wrath, saith the LORD; but it shall not be so; his lies shall not so effect it.

Analysis

I know his wrath, saith the LORD (יָדַעְתִּי עֲבָרָתוֹ וְאַמְיָהוּהָ)—God declares intimate knowledge of Moab's fury and arrogance. The Hebrew *evrah* (עֲבָרָה) means outburst, overflow, fury—violent anger expressed in hostile actions and boastful words. **But it shall not be so; his lies shall not so effect it** (וְלֹא־כֵן בְּדִיו לֹא־כֵן עָשׂוּ). The word *bad* (בַּד) means empty talk, boasting, idle claims—Moab's threats and proud declarations are vapor.

This verse exposes the impotence of rage apart from divine approval. Moab's wrath and boasting accomplish nothing because God opposes them. Their lies (*bad*) cannot effect (עָשׂוּ, *asah*—do, accomplish, make) their desired outcomes. Human fury, however violent, cannot override divine decree. This principle appears throughout Scripture: God laughs at nations raging against His purposes (Psalm 2:1-4). Moab's pride produces only empty threats.

Historical Context

Moab had historically boasted of strength and plotted against Israel. The Moabite Stone (circa 840 BC) records King Mesha's boast of defeating Israel and attributing it to his god Chemosh. Such pride characterized Moab's self-perception. But Jeremiah declares their boasting is empty—their wrath cannot prevent God's judgment. History vindicated this prophecy: Moab ceased to exist as a nation after the Babylonian conquest, absorbed into larger empires and eventually disappearing from history.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's declaration that Moab's wrath 'shall not be so' demonstrate His absolute sovereignty over human rage and plans?
2. What comfort does this verse offer when facing hostile forces that boast and threaten against God's people?
3. In what ways might we rely on our own wrath or empty boasting rather than trusting God's purposes?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	וְלֹא	עֲבֹרָתוֹ	יְהוָה	נֹאֵם	יְדַעְתִּי	אֲנִי
H589		H3808		H5002	H3045	
		his wrath	the LORD	saith	I know	
		H5678	H3068			
עֲשׂוֹ:	כִּי	לֹא	בֶּדֶךָ	וְיִשְׁכַּח		
	H3651		H3808	H907		
shall not so effect			but it shall not be so his lies			
H6213						

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 50:36 (Parallel theme): A sword is upon the liars; and they shall dote: a sword is upon her mighty men; and they shall be dismayed.