

Jeremiah 48:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

Analysis

And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab (וְנִגְלָה שִׂמְחָה וְגִיל מִכַּרְמֶל וּמֵאֶרֶץ מוֹאָב)—The Hebrew simchah (שִׂמְחָה) and gil (גִּיל) both mean joy, gladness, rejoicing. These are harvest terms—the celebration accompanying grape gathering and wine production. This joy is 'taken' (asaph, אָסַף—gathered away, removed, withdrawn). God removes blessing, and with it, the joy that blessing produces.

I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall tread with shouting (וַיִּנְיֵן מִקְבִּים הַשָּׁבַת לֹא-יִדְרֹךְ הַיָּדָד). The word shavat (שָׁבַת) means to cease, stop, rest—God actively stops wine production. Treading grapes was accompanied by joyful shouting (hedad, הִידָד). **Their shouting shall be no shouting**—any cries will be of anguish, not celebration. The reversal is complete: sounds of joy become sounds of grief. This echoes the covenant curses of Deuteronomy 28:30-39—planting but not harvesting, because of covenant unfaithfulness.

Historical Context

Grape harvest in the ancient Near East was the year's most joyful celebration, similar to modern harvest festivals. Treading grapes in winepresses was communal, accompanied by rhythmic chanting and singing. Isaiah 16:9-10

contains nearly identical language about Moab's harvest joy being ended. The fulfillment came when Babylon conquered Moab (circa 582 BC), devastating agriculture and ending prosperity. This judgment parallels what Judah experienced—both nations lost their harvests and joy under divine discipline.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the removal of harvest joy illustrate that all human gladness depends on God's blessing?
2. What does the silencing of joyful shouting teach about the comprehensive nature of divine judgment?
3. In what ways should awareness that God gives and removes blessing shape our enjoyment of prosperity and productivity?

Interlinear Text

וּנְאָסָף הַ	שִׂמְחָה הַ	וְגַל	מִכֶּרֶם לַ	וּמֵאֶרֶץ
is taken	And joy	and gladness	from the plentiful field	and from the land
H622	H8057	H1524	H3759	H776
מִמּוֹאָב	וְאֵנִי	מִיִּקְבַּיִם	הַשֹּׁבֵב תִּי	לֹא
of Moab	and I have caused wine	from the winepresses	to fail	H3808
H4124	H3196	H3342	H7673	
יֵדְרֶה	הַיָּדָד:	הַיָּדָד:	לֹא	
none shall tread	shall be no shouting	shall be no shouting	H3808	
H1869	H1959	H1959		
הַיָּדָד:				
shall be no shouting				
H1959				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 5:10 (Parallel theme): Yea, ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath, and the seed of an homer shall yield an ephah.

Haggai 2:16 (Parallel theme): Since those days were, when one came to an heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty.