

Jeremiah 49:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And their camels shall be a booty, and the multitude of their cattle a spoil: and I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners; and I will bring their calamity from all sides thereof, saith the LORD.

Analysis

And their camels shall be a booty (וְהִי גַּמְלֵיכֶם לְבָז, v'hayu g'malleihem lavaz)—Camels were Arabia's economic engine: transportation, trade, wealth storage. Their seizure means total economic collapse. **And the multitude of their cattle a spoil** (וְהַמָּן מִקְנֵיכֶם לְשָׁלָל, vahamon miqneihem l'shalal)—livestock herds become plunder (shalal). Every asset vanishes.

And I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners (וְזִרְתִּים, v'zeritim l'khol-ruach qetsutzei pe'ah)—The qetsutzei pe'ah (those who cut the corners of their hair) refers to an Arabian custom forbidden to Israelites (Leviticus 19:27). God will zarah (scatter, winnow) them to every wind direction—the ultimate nomadic irony. Those who moved freely through desert spaces will be forcibly dispersed. **I will bring their calamity from all sides thereof**—magor missaviv again. Omnidirectional judgment leaves no escape vector.

Historical Context

The hair-trimming custom (rounded foreheads) distinguished certain Arabian tribes and had religious significance. Jeremiah's reference confirms specific Arabian cultural practices. Historical records document Arabian tribes'

fragmentation and displacement during this period, fulfilling the scattering prophecy.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does God's judgment often involve ironic reversals of a people's characteristic strengths or practices?
2. What does the scattering 'to all winds' reveal about the comprehensive reach of divine judgment?
3. How should Christians view cultural distinctives (like the hair custom) in light of God's universal moral standards?

Interlinear Text

מִקְנִים	וְבָמָה	לְבָבְךָ	גִּמְלִיכָה	מִן	בְּנֵי	אֶת	וְבָמָה	וְבָמָה	מִקְנִים
H1961	And their camels	shall be a booty	H957	and the multitude	H1995	of their cattle	H4735		
H1581									
לְשָׁלַל	לְכָל	רַעַם	לְכָל	רַעַם	לְכָל	לְכָל	לְכָל	לְכָל	לְכָל
לְשָׁלַל	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים	וְיַרְתָּתִים
H7998	and I will scatter	H2219	H3605	into all winds	H7307	them that are in the utmost	H7112		
פָּאָה	עַבְבָּעָה	אָבָא	אָבָא	אָבָא	אָתָה	אָתָה	אָתָה	אָתָה	אָתָה
corners	from all sides	and I will bring	H935		H853	their calamity	H343	thereof saith	H5002
H6285	H5676								
יְהֹוָה:									
the LORD									
H3068									

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 9:26 (Parallel theme): Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness: for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

Jeremiah 25:23 (Parallel theme): Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners,

Jeremiah 49:36 (Parallel theme): And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.

Ezekiel 5:10 (Parallel theme): Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments in thee, and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter into all the winds.

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