

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 (וְהָיוּ גַמְלֵיהֶם לַבֹּז, 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** (וְהָמוֹן מִקְנֵיהֶם לְשָׁלָל, vahamon miquneihem l'shalal)—livestock herds become plunder (shalal). Every asset vanishes.

And I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners (וְזָרַחְתִּים, v'zeritim l'khohol-ruach getsutzei pe'ah)—The getsutzei 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

וְהִי וְ	גַמְלִיָּה מִ	לְבַז	וְהַמִּוֹן	מִקְנֵיהֶם
H1961	And their camels	shall be a booty	and the multitude	of their cattle
	H1581	H957	H1995	H4735
לְשָׂלָל	וְזָרַת יָם	לְכָל	רְוָחַ	קְצוּצֵי יָדָיִם
a spoil	and I will scatter	into all winds	them that are in the utmost	
H7998	H2219	H3605	H7307	H7112
פְּאַתֵּי הַ	וּמִכָּל	עֲבָתָהּ יָם	אֶבְרָתָהּ	אֵינָם
corners	from all sides	and I will bring	their calamity	thereof saith
H6285	H3605	H5676	H853	H343
		H935		H5002
יְהוָה:				
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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