

Jeremiah 49:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hazor shall be a dwelling for dragons, and a desolation for ever: there shall no man abide there, nor any son of man dwell in it.

Analysis

And Hazor shall be a dwelling for dragons (וְהָיְתָה חָצוֹר לְתַנִּינִים, v'hay'tah Chatzor lim'on tannim)—Tannim (jackals/desert creatures) will inhabit formerly human settlements. This fate parallels Edom's (v. 17) and Babylon's (50:39), indicating total desolation. Where humans thrived, only scavengers prowl—a reversal of creation's order signaling uncreation under God's curse.

And a desolation for ever (שְׁמָמָה עַד־עוֹלָם, sh'mamah ad-olam)—Not temporary setback but perpetual abandonment. **There shall no man abide there, nor any son of man dwell in it**—The Sodom formula (v. 18) reappears. While Babylon would eventually be inhabited again (Hazor wasn't Babylon), the Arabian tribal kingdoms never recovered their former prominence. The 'forever' language uses prophetic hyperbole to emphasize thorough judgment, even if not absolute perpetuity.

Historical Context

Archaeological and historical records show significant disruption to Arabian tribal confederations during Neo-Babylonian period. While Arabs continued in the region, the specific kingdoms mentioned (Kedar, Hazor settlements) lost political cohesion and economic dominance. Later Persian and Nabatean Arabs were different entities.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does the 'dwelling for jackals' motif teach about God's ability to reverse human civilization?
2. How should we interpret prophetic 'forever' language—as absolute or hyperbolic emphasis?
3. What does Hazor's fate teach about the impermanence of human settlements apart from God's blessing?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיְתָה הַ	חֲצֹר וְ	לְמֶעֶן וְ	תֵּנּוּ יָם	שְׁמָמָה הַ	עַד
H1961	And Hazor	shall be a dwelling	for dragons	and a desolation	for
	H2674	H4583	H8577	H8077	H5704
עוֹלָם	לֹא יֵשֵׁב	שָׁם	אֵין יֵשֵׁב	וְלֹא יֵשֵׁב	בָּהּ הַ
ever	H3808	abide	H8033	there shall no man	H3808
H5769		H3427	H376	dwelt	H0
				H1481	
בֶּן	אָדָם:				
there nor any son	of man				
H1121	H120				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 51:37 (Parallel theme): And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant.

Jeremiah 9:11 (Parallel theme): And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant.

Jeremiah 10:22 (Parallel theme): Behold, the noise of the bruit is come, and a great commotion out of the north country, to make the cities of Judah desolate, and a den of dragons.

Malachi 1:3 (Parallel theme): And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.

Zephaniah 2:9 (Parallel theme): Therefore as I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them.

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