

# Jeremiah 49:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before them that seek their life: and I will bring evil upon them, even my fierce anger, saith the LORD; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them:

## Analysis

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**For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies** (וְפִתְחָתָתִי אֶת-עִילָם) — The verb chatat means to shatter, terrify, dismay. God personally engineers psychological collapse. Elam's warriors will lose courage, fulfilling covenant curse patterns (Leviticus 26:36-37). **And before them that seek their life** — not casual opponents but mortal enemies intent on extermination.

**And I will bring evil upon them, even my fierce anger** (וְהִבָּאתִי עֲלֵיכֶם בְּעֵה אֶת-) — Ra'ah (calamity/evil) is God's judicial response; charon appi (burning of My anger) reveals the intensity. Divine wrath isn't capricious emotion but settled judicial response to sin. **And I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them** — the sword personified as pursuing predator. Kalah (consume) suggests thorough, not necessarily total, destruction—enough to accomplish God's purposes.

## Historical Context

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Elam faced multiple invasions: Babylonian campaigns, then Persian conquest under Cyrus, later Hellenistic conflicts. The 'sword after them' describes recurring

military disasters that prevented Elam from regaining power. God's 'fierce anger' manifested through historical processes, not just supernatural intervention.

## Related Passages

## **Romans 2:1 – Judging others**

## **Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds**

## Study Questions

1. How does God use 'dismay' and psychological warfare as instruments of judgment alongside physical destruction?
2. What does God's 'fierce anger' reveal about His holiness and justice—is divine wrath arbitrary or principled?
3. In what sense does the 'sword' pursue until consumption, and when does God's judgment reach completion?

## Interlinear Text

|                       |      |                              |                   |                      |                   |
|-----------------------|------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| וְהִחְתַּתֵּת         | אֶת  | עַלְמָם                      | וְלֹפֶגֶן         | וְאַבְיָהָם          | וְלֹפֶגֶן         |
| <b>to be dismayed</b> | H853 | <b>For I will cause Elam</b> | <b>and before</b> | <b>their enemies</b> | <b>and before</b> |

|  |                  |      |       |
|--|------------------|------|-------|
| את רע ה אליה סן נפשם מביאה י               | H5921            | evil | H853  |
| them that seek their life and I will bring | H1245 H5315 H935 |      | H7451 |

אַפְרִים וְלֹא אָמַרְתִּי נָאָמֵן הָיְהֵי שְׁלֹחַת־יְהוָה וְאַתְּ תַּעֲשֶׂה  
upon them even my fierce anger saith the LORD and I will send after

אֶת־כָּבֵד־עַד־כְּלֹתִים אָתָּם  
H853 the sword H5704 them till I have consumed H853  
H2719 H3615

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 9:16** (Word): I will scatter them also among the heathen, whom neither they nor their fathers have known: and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.

**Jeremiah 48:2** (Word): There shall be no more praise of Moab: in Heshbon they have devised evil against it; come, and let us cut it off from being a nation. Also thou shalt be cut down, O Madmen; the sword shall pursue thee.

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