

Jeremiah 50:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, I am against thee, O thou most proud, saith the Lord GOD of hosts: for thy day is come, the time that I will visit thee.

Analysis

Behold, I am against thee, O thou most proud—God directly addresses Babylon as *zdon* (זִדּוֹן, pride, arrogance, presumption). Pride was Babylon's characteristic sin: the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:4), Nebuchadnezzar's boast (Daniel 4:30), Belshazzar's sacrilege (Daniel 5:22-23). **I am against thee** is one of Scripture's most terrifying phrases—when God sets Himself against someone, no defense avails.

Saith the Lord GOD of hosts—Adonai Yahweh Tseva'ot (אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה צְבָאוֹת), the full title emphasizing sovereign authority over all armies. **For thy day is come, the time that I will visit thee**—the appointed *yom* (day) and *eth paqadtik* (time of your reckoning) arrive with certainty. God's longsuffering has limits; the 'day' of grace ends, judgment begins.

Historical Context

Pride characterized Babylon from its founding. The Tower of Babel represented humanity's arrogant attempt to make a name for themselves independent of God (Genesis 11:4). Nebuchadnezzar's pride led to seven years of madness until he acknowledged God's sovereignty (Daniel 4:28-37). Belshazzar's pride in drinking from Jerusalem's temple vessels the night Babylon fell epitomized the empire's arrogance (Daniel 5:2-5, 22-23). When Cyrus conquered Babylon, he claimed that

Marduk (Babylon's chief god) had chosen him—ironic confirmation that Babylon's gods could not save them. Pride indeed preceded Babylon's fall.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What makes pride such a dangerous sin that God directly opposes the proud (James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5)?
2. How did Babylon's pride manifest, and where do you see similar arrogance in modern institutions or nations?
3. What does it mean to have God 'against' you, and how does this motivate humility and repentance?

Interlinear Text

הִנֵּנִי י	אֵל יָבִי	יְדֹוֹן	נֹאמַר י	אֲדֹנָי
H2005	H413			
Behold I am against thee O thou most proud			saith	the Lord
H2087			H5002	H136
הָאֱלֹהִים	וְהָאֲדָמָה	וְהָאֲדָמָה	וְהָאֲדָמָה	וְהָאֲדָמָה
H3069	H6635	H3588	H935	H3117
GOD	of hosts	is come	for thy day	the time
H3069	H6635	H935	H3117	H6256
that I will visit				
H6485				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 50:29 (References Lord): Call together the archers against Babylon: all ye that bend the bow, camp against it round about; let none thereof escape: recompense her according to her work; according to all that she hath done, do unto her: for she hath been proud against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.

Jeremiah 21:13 (References Lord): Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain, saith the LORD; which say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations?

Nahum 2:13 (References Lord): Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.

James 4:6 (References God): But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Ezekiel 39:1 (References God): Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

1 Peter 5:5 (References God): Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.