

Jeremiah 52:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.

Analysis

Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard (נְבוּזַרְאֲדָן רֹב־טַבָּחִים, literally 'chief of the executioners') brought the leaders to **Riblah** (רִבְלָה), Nebuchadnezzar's military headquarters in Syria, 200 miles north of Jerusalem. Riblah was strategically located on the Orontes River, controlling trade routes between Mesopotamia and Egypt.

The journey to Riblah would have been a brutal forced march, chains binding men who once walked in power. This same Nebuzar-adan had shown kindness to Jeremiah (39:11-14), demonstrating that God can move pagan hearts to preserve His prophets even while executing judgment on covenant-breakers.

Historical Context

Riblah served as Pharaoh Neco's headquarters earlier (2 Kings 23:33) where he deposed Jehohaz. Now Babylon uses the same location to judge Zedekiah, showing the transfer of regional power from Egypt to Babylon, exactly as Jeremiah prophesied.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does Nebuzar-adan's dual role (executing leaders but protecting Jeremiah) reveal about God's sovereignty over pagan rulers?
2. How does the 200-mile march to judgment symbolize the distance Judah had strayed from covenant faithfulness?
3. In what ways does God providentially protect His faithful servants even in contexts of widespread judgment?

Interlinear Text

וָיָקַח	אוֹתָם	נְבוּזַרְאֲדַן	רֹבֵב	טִבַּחַיִּים	וַיִּלְךָ	אוֹתָם
took		So Nebuzaradan	the captain	of the guard		
H3947	H853	H5018	H7227	H2876	H1980	H853
אֶל	לְמֶלֶךְ	לְבָבֶל	רִבְלָה:			
	them to the king	of Babylon	to Riblah			
H413	H4428	H894	H7247			

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