

Jeremiah 6:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side.

Analysis

The warning against normal activity—'Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way'—indicates that danger is everywhere. The specific threat, 'the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side,' shows comprehensive danger. The Hebrew phrase 'magor missabib' (fear/terror on every side) becomes a recurring theme in Jeremiah's prophecy. This total insecurity illustrates life under God's judgment: no safe spaces remain. The command to avoid normal activities shows how judgment disrupts everyday life. This reflects the covenant curse where leaving your city brings death (Deuteronomy 28:25).

Historical Context

During the Babylonian siege and conquest, Judeans faced danger everywhere—inside the city from famine and disease, outside from enemy forces. Normal economic and social life became impossible.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's judgment affect every dimension of life, not just spiritual matters?
2. What does comprehensive insecurity teach about the totality of sin's consequences?
3. How should this verse inform our understanding of true security and where it is found?

Interlinear Text

כִּי תַּלְכֵּד אֶל בַּשְּׂדֵה וְבַדְכֵן תַּצְאֵי
H408 Go not forth into the field by the way H408 H1980 H3588 for the sword
H3318 H7704 H1870 H2719

מִסְבֵּב: מִגְּוָר לְאֵי בָּהּ
is on every side and fear of the enemy

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 49:29 (Parallel theme): Their tents and their flocks shall they take away: they shall take to themselves their curtains, and all their vessels, and their camels; and they shall cry unto them, Fear is on every side.

Psalms 31:13 (Parallel theme): For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

Job 18:11 (Parallel theme): Terrors shall make him afraid on every side, and shall drive him to his feet.

Jeremiah 14:18 (Word): If I go forth into the field, then behold the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then behold them that are sick with famine! yea, both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they know not.

Jeremiah 20:10 (Parallel theme): For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side. Report, say they, and we will report it. All my familiars watched for my halting, saying, Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him.

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