

Jeremiah 6:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them.

Analysis

The conclusion of the metallurgical metaphor: 'Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them.' The term 'reprobate' (Hebrew 'ma'as'—rejected, refused) indicates silver that fails purity standards. Despite refining attempts, the material proves worthless and must be discarded. The phrase 'the LORD hath rejected them' is the ultimate verdict. This doesn't mean individuals cannot repent, but that corporately, this generation has been weighed and found wanting. Reformed theology carefully distinguishes between corporate judgment on nations/generations and God's particular election of individuals unto salvation. The rejected silver metaphor shows that outward covenant identity without inward transformation leads to divine rejection.

Historical Context

Corporate rejection of Judah led to exile and loss of nationhood, though a faithful remnant was preserved. This pattern of corporate judgment with remnant preservation recurs throughout redemptive history.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do we understand corporate judgment while maintaining hope for individual salvation?
2. What is the difference between being rejected as worthless silver and being elect unto salvation?
3. How should the possibility of divine rejection motivate examination of our spiritual authenticity?

Interlinear Text

גֶּדֶבֶת מְאָסָרֶת כְּרָא לְבָשָׂר מְאָסָרֶת
silver Reprobate shall men call Reprobate

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וְיַהְיֵה בְּנָם

them because the LORD
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Additional Cross-References

Hosea 9:17 (Parallel theme): My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations.

Isaiah 1:22 (Parallel theme): Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water:

Psalms 119:119 (Parallel theme): Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth like dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.

Isaiah 1:25 (Parallel theme): And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: