

Jeremiah 7:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then will I cause to cease from the cities of Judah, and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride: for the land shall be desolate.

Analysis

The finale of judgment: 'Then will I cause to cease from the cities of Judah, and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride: for the land shall be desolate.' This catalog of silenced joys ('mirth,' 'gladness,' wedding celebrations) depicts comprehensive desolation. Normal human joy and social life will cease. The wedding imagery is particularly poignant—new beginnings and hope will vanish. The reason: 'the land shall be desolate.' This fulfills covenant curses where joy turns to mourning (Hosea 2:11). Complete reversal of blessing: from celebration to silence, from life to desolation.

Historical Context

The Babylonian exile resulted in Jerusalem's depopulation and Judah's desolation for 70 years (Jeremiah 25:11-12). The silence of abandoned cities fulfilled this prophecy literally.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What does the cessation of weddings and joy represent about judgment's comprehensiveness?
2. How does this verse illustrate that covenant breaking affects all of life, not just religious observance?
3. What hope for restoration of joy and celebration does the gospel offer even after judgment?

Interlinear Text

וְהִשָּׁבֵת יִן	מֵעִיר י	יְהוּדָה	וּמִחֲצוֹת		
Then will I cause to cease	from the cities	of Judah	and from the streets		
H7673	H5892	H3063	H2351		
יֵר וּשְׁלָם	וְקוֹל	שִׁשׂוֹן	וְקוֹל	שִׂמְחָה	וְקוֹל
of Jerusalem	and the voice	of mirth	and the voice	of gladness	and the voice
H3389	H6963	H8342	H6963	H8057	H6963
חֲתָן	וְקוֹל	כַּלָּה	כִּי	לְחֲרָבָה	תִּהְיֶה
of the bridegroom	and the voice	of the bride	H3588	shall be desolate	H1961
H2860	H6963	H3618		H2723	
הָאָרֶץ:					
for the land					
H776					

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 18:23 (Parallel theme): And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

Ezekiel 26:13 (Parallel theme): And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard.

Hosea 2:11 (Parallel theme): I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

Isaiah 1:7 (Parallel theme): Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

Jeremiah 25:10 (Parallel theme): Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle.

Jeremiah 16:9 (Parallel theme): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will cause to cease out of this place in your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

Leviticus 26:33 (Parallel theme): And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.

Isaiah 3:26 (Parallel theme): And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground.

Jeremiah 4:27 (Parallel theme): For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.

Micah 7:13 (Parallel theme): Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings.