

# Jeremiah 9:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness: for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

## Analysis

---

This verse lists nations facing judgment: 'Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness.' The Hebrew list includes Israel's major neighbors and trading partners. 'For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.' The climactic indictment equates Israel's heart condition with pagan uncleanness. Despite physical circumcision, Israel's uncircumcised hearts (*arelei-lev*, עֲרָלֵי-לֵב) made them spiritually identical to pagans. The circumcision that matters—heart circumcision—was absent. External religious identity without internal transformation provides no protection from judgment.

## Historical Context

---

The nations listed would all experience Babylonian conquest or domination. Egypt fell to Nebuchadnezzar in 605 BC at Carchemish. Edom, Ammon, and Moab were subjugated during his campaigns. 'Those in the corners/wilderness' may refer to Arabian tribes who trimmed their hair at the temples (forbidden in Leviticus 19:27). The comprehensive list shows Babylon as God's instrument judging all nations, Israel included.

## Related Passages

## **Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith**

## James 2:17 — Faith and works

## 1 John 4:8 – God is love

## 1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

1. What does Israel's equation with pagan nations teach about the worthlessness of religious identity without heart devotion?
2. How does this passage anticipate the New Testament teaching that there is no distinction—all have sinned (Romans 3:22-23)?

## Interlinear Text

בָּנִים	בְּנִי	בְּנִי	בְּנִים	בְּנִים	בְּנִים	בְּנִים	בְּנִים
H5921	Egypt	H5921	and Judah	H5921	and Edom	H5921	and the children
H4714		H3063		H123		H1121	
עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	עַמּוֹן	פָּאַה
of Ammon		and Moab		and all that are in the utmost			corners
H5983	H5921	H4124	H5921	H3605	H7112		H6285
עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי	עַרְלִי
that dwell	in the wilderness	H3588	H3605	for all these nations	are uncircumcised		
H3427	H4057			H1471			H6189
יכל	יכל	יכל	יכל	יכל	יכל	יכל	יכל
H3605	and all the house	of Israel	are uncircumcised	in the heart			
H1004	H3478	H6189	H3820				

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Jeremiah 4:4** (Parallel theme): Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

**Leviticus 26:41** (Parallel theme): And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity:

**Ezekiel 44:7** (Parallel theme): In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations.

**Acts 7:51** (Parallel theme): Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

**Jeremiah 49:32** (Parallel theme): And their camels shall be a booty, and the multitude of their cattle a spoil: and I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners; and I will bring their calamity from all sides thereof, saith the LORD.

---