

Lamentations 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity: he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins.

Analysis

The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion (תָּמַן עַזְנָךְ בְּתִצְיָון, tam-avonekh bat-tsiyon)—'Accomplished' (tam) means completed, finished. The judicial sentence has been fully served. **He will no more carry thee away into captivity** (לֹא יוֹסִיף לְמִגְלֹתָה, lo yosif lehaglotek)—'no more' (lo yosif) promises an end to exile. This is prophetic hope: judgment is temporary, restoration is coming. **He will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins** (פָּקַד עַזְנָךְ בְּתִאָדוֹם גַּלְהָ עַל-חַטֹּאתֶיךָ, paqad avonekh bat-Edom gilah al-chatotayikh)—'visit' (paqad) means to attend to, punish. Edom's hidden treachery ('discover' = reveal, expose) will be judged. The book ends with contrasting futures: Israel's punishment complete, Edom's beginning.

Historical Context

This prophetic word was fulfilled: Judah returned after 70 years (539 BC under Cyrus). Though Israel experienced later exiles, the Babylonian captivity was unique and never repeated in that form. Edom's judgment came gradually but comprehensively—they ceased to exist as a people. The final verse of Lamentations thus ends not in despair but hope.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. When you're experiencing God's discipline, can you trust that it has a 'tam'—a completion point—that it will not last forever?
2. How does the contrast between Israel's ended punishment and Edom's coming judgment demonstrate that God's discipline of His children differs fundamentally from His wrath against His enemies?

Interlinear Text

מִתְּמֻנָּה

is accomplished

עֲוֹנָה

The punishment of thine iniquity

בָּתְּ

O daughter

אֶלְעָזֶר

of Zion

לְאֶלְעָזֶר

H3808

H8552

H5771

H1323

H6726

וְאַתָּה

he will no more

גַּל הַ

carry thee away into captivity

פָּקַד

he will visit

H3254

H1540

H6485

עֲוֹנָה

The punishment of thine iniquity

בָּתְּ

O daughter

אֶלְעָזֶר

of Edom

לְאֶלְעָזֶר

H1540

H5771

H1323

H123

מִתְּאַתִּיךְ עַל

thy sins

H2403

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 40:2 (Sin): Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

Psalms 137:7 (Parallel theme): Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

Jeremiah 50:20 (Sin): In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

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