

# Micah 4:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

## Analysis

**Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion** (קוּמִי וְדוּשִׁי בִתְצִיּוֹן, qumi va-doshi vat-Tsiyyon). Following God's gathering enemies as sheaves (v. 12), He commands Jerusalem to קוּם (qum, arise) and דוּשׁ (dush, thresh). Threshing separated grain from chaff by animals trampling or sledges crushing stalks. The imagery: Zion becomes God's threshing instrument, crushing gathered enemies. This reverses roles—the besieged becomes victor, the threatened becomes conqueror.

**For I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass** (פִּי־קַרְנֶךָ אֲשִׁים, ki-qarnekh asim barzel u-farsotayikh asim nechushshah). קַרְנֶךָ (qeren, horn) symbolizes strength and power (Deuteronomy 33:17; Psalm 75:10, 89:17, 24). Making it בַּרְזֶל (barzel, iron) indicates invincible might. פֶּרֶסָה (parsah, hoof) made נְחוּשָׁה (nechushshah, bronze/brass) pictures trampling power. Together: supernatural strengthening transforms weakness into overwhelming force.

**And thou shalt beat in pieces many people** (וַהֲדִקוֹת עַמִּים רַבִּים, wa-hadikkot ammim rabbim). דָּקָה (daqaq, beat in pieces/crush to powder) describes total defeat of עַמִּים רַבִּים (ammim rabbim, many peoples). **And I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth**

(וְהַחֲרַמְתִּי לַיהוָה בְּצַעַם וְחֵילָם לְאֲדוֹן כָּל־הָאָרֶץ, we-hacharamti la-YHWH bitsa m we-cheilam la-adon kol-ha'arets). חָרַם (charam, devote/consecrate) means dedicating spoils to God—holy war where plunder goes to sanctuary, not personal enrichment. The enemies' בְּצַעַם (betsa, gain/profit) and חֵיל (chayil, wealth/resources) become offerings to אֲדוֹן כָּל־הָאָרֶץ (adon kol-ha'arets, Lord of all the earth)—affirming Yahweh's universal sovereignty.

## Historical Context

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The command to thresh and consecrate spoils evokes holy war traditions (Joshua 6:17-19; 1 Samuel 15:3). Israel's victories demonstrated Yahweh fighting for them, with plunder devoted to Him. Yet Israel often failed this test—Achan kept devoted things (Joshua 7), Saul spared Agag and best animals (1 Samuel 15). Micah's prophecy envisions future victory where spoils are properly consecrated.

This hasn't been literally fulfilled in any historical event. It awaits eschatological fulfillment when Messiah returns, destroys gathered enemies (Revelation 19:11-21), and establishes His kingdom. Zechariah 14:14 similarly predicts: **"Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together."** Isaiah 60:5 promises nations' wealth coming to Zion. The pattern: God strengthens His people to defeat enemies, consecrating victory spoils to His glory. This ensures judgment serves redemptive purposes—not enriching Israel but glorifying God. Revelation 21:24-26 depicts nations bringing glory and honor into the New Jerusalem—redeemed wealth serving eternal kingdom.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's strengthening Zion with iron horns and brass hoofs demonstrate His power to transform weakness into victorious strength?
2. What does consecrating enemy spoils to the LORD teach about warfare serving divine purposes rather than human enrichment?
3. In what ways does this prophecy point toward Christ's ultimate victory at His return, when He defeats gathered enemies and establishes eternal kingdom?

## Interlinear Text

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|                     |                     |                       |                    |                               |              |                 |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| קִּי וְאִי          | וְדָ וְשִׁי         | בֵּת                  | צִיּוֹן            | כִּי                          | קַרְנֵי הָ   | אֲשֶׁר יִשׁוּ   |
| Arise               | and thresh          | O daughter            | of Zion            | H3588                         | thine horn   | and I will make |
| H6965               | H1758               | H1323                 | H6726              |                               | H7161        | H7760           |
| בְּרִזָּה           | וּפְרִסֹתַי יִהְיוּ | אֲשֶׁר יִשׁוּ         | נְחוֹשֶׁת הָ       | וְהִדַּקְתָּ                  | וְהִדַּקְתָּ | וְהִדַּקְתָּ    |
| iron                | thy hoofs           | and I will make       | brass              | and thou shalt beat in pieces |              |                 |
| H1270               | H6541               | H7760                 | H5154              |                               | H1854        |                 |
| עַמֵּי יִשְׂרָאֵל   | רַבִּים יִשְׂרָאֵל  | וְהִתְקַדְּשׁוּ       | לִיהוָה            | בְּצֵעָם                      |              |                 |
| people              | many                | and I will consecrate | unto the LORD      | their gain                    |              |                 |
| H5971               | H7227               | H2763                 | H3068              | H1215                         |              |                 |
| וְחִילָם            | לְאֵדוֹן            | כָּל                  | הָאָרֶץ:           |                               |              |                 |
| and their substance | unto the Lord       | H3605                 | of the whole earth |                               |              |                 |
| H2428               | H113                |                       | H776               |                               |              |                 |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Daniel 2:44** (Parallel theme): And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

**Isaiah 23:18** (References Lord): And her merchandise and her hire shall be holiness to the LORD: it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise

shall be for them that dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for durable clothing.

**Isaiah 18:7** (References Lord): In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.

**1 Corinthians 16:2** (Parallel theme): Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

**Zechariah 6:5** (References Lord): And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.

**Psalms 68:29** (Parallel theme): Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.

**Jeremiah 51:33** (References Lord): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor, it is time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

**Zechariah 4:14** (References Lord): Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.

**Joshua 6:19** (References Lord): But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.