

Proverbs 29:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Analysis

One 'often reproved' who 'hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed without remedy.' The Hebrew 'toka'chot' (reproofs) and 'qashah oref' (hardens neck—stubborn) describe persistent rebellion despite correction. The judgment is sudden and final—'peta' (suddenly) and 'ein marpe' (no healing/remedy). This warns that God's patience has limits. Repeated rejection of correction leads to judgment beyond healing. Reformed theology sees this in final impenitence and hardening. Hebrews 3:7-8 warns: 'To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.'

Historical Context

Israel's history demonstrated this: repeated prophetic warnings preceded exile with 'no remedy' (2 Chronicles 36:16). Pharaoh's hardened heart led to destruction. God's patience is real but not infinite.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Are you receiving correction with humility or hardening your heart?

2. What areas of life have you been repeatedly warned about that require repentance?
3. How does this verse motivate urgent response to God's conviction?

Interlinear Text

אֵשׁ	תּוֹכַחֹת	מִקְשָׁה	עַל	כַּף	פֶּתַע	שֶׁבֶר
He	that being often reprov'd	hardeneth	his neck	shall suddenly	be destroyed	
H376	H8433	H7185	H6203	H6621	H7665	
וְאֵין	מִרְפָּא:					
H369	and that without remedy					
	H4832					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 6:15 (Parallel theme): Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.

1 Samuel 2:25 (Parallel theme): If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

Proverbs 28:18 (Parallel theme): Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.

John 13:18 (Parallel theme): I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

John 13:26 (Parallel theme): Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

Acts 1:25 (Parallel theme): That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

Acts 1:18 (Parallel theme): Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

Nehemiah 9:29 (Parallel theme): And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 (Parallel theme): For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

1 Kings 22:28 (Parallel theme): And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you.