

Psalms 106:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To overthrow their seed also among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.

Analysis

This verse expands God's oath of judgment beyond the wilderness generation. 'To overthrow their seed also among the nations' prophesies exile—Israel's descendants would be scattered among pagan nations. 'To scatter them in the lands' uses *zarah* (זָרַח), meaning to winnow, disperse, or scatter like chaff. This was fulfilled in the Assyrian exile (722 BC) and Babylonian captivity (586 BC), and later diaspora. God's covenant included generational blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience (Deuteronomy 28-30). The sins of one generation bring consequences on descendants, demonstrating the corporate nature of covenant and the seriousness of covenant-breaking.

Historical Context

While the immediate context is the wilderness generation's judgment, this verse prophetically extends to future exile as covenant curse. Deuteronomy 28:64-68 and Leviticus 26:33 warned of scattering among nations if Israel broke covenant. These warnings were fulfilled through Assyrian and Babylonian conquests. For post-exilic Israel reciting this psalm, it explained their recent exile as God fulfilling His oath of covenant curse for persistent idolatry and rebellion.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do the sins of one generation affect subsequent generations?
2. What does scattering among nations teach about the consequences of covenant-breaking?
3. How should understanding generational covenant consequences affect our obedience today?

Interlinear Text

וְלִהֲפֹּיֵל	וְרִיעָם	בְּגוֹיִם	וּלְזָרוֹת	בְּאַרְצוֹת:
To overthrow	their seed	also among the nations	and to scatter	them in the lands
H5307	H2233	H1471	H2219	H776

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 44:11 (Parallel theme): Thou hast given us like sheep appointed for meat; and hast scattered us among the heathen.

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.

Ezekiel 20:23 (Parallel theme): I lifted up mine hand unto them also in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the heathen, and disperse them through the countries;