

# Psalms 137:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.

## Analysis

**Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem** (זָכֹר יְהוָה) (לִבְנֵי אֱדוֹם אֶת יוֹם יְרוּשָׁלַם)—The imprecatory cry for justice. Zakhōr (remember) invokes God's attention to Edom's betrayal. Yom Yerushalaim (the day of Jerusalem) refers to 586 BC when Babylon destroyed the city. **Who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof** (הָאֲמָרִים עָרוּ עָרוּ עַד הִסּוֹד בָּהּ)—aru (strip bare/demolish) repeated intensifies the violence. Edom, Israel's brother-nation (descended from Esau), cheered Jerusalem's destruction.

Obadiah and Ezekiel 35 prophesy Edom's judgment for this betrayal. The imprecation isn't personal vendetta but covenant justice—God must vindicate His reputation and judge treachery. Romans 12:19 forbids personal vengeance while affirming divine wrath.

## Historical Context

Edom occupied land south of the Dead Sea, perpetually in conflict with Israel despite kinship (Genesis 25-36). During Babylon's siege, Edomites aided attackers, cut off escapees (Obadiah 11-14), and plundered ruins. This infamous betrayal became shorthand for ultimate treachery—brother turning on brother in catastrophe.

## Related Passages

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**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

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1. How do you process rage at betrayal—and what's the difference between imprecatory prayer and sinful revenge?
2. When have you experienced 'Edomite' Christians who rejoiced in your downfall?
3. What does it mean to entrust justice to God while still naming evil clearly and honestly?

## Interlinear Text

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זָכוּר	יְהוָה הֵן	לְבָנֵי י	אֶדוֹם	אֵת	יּוֹם	יְרוּשָׁלַם
<b>Remember</b>	<b>O LORD</b>	<b>the children</b>	<b>of Edom</b>	H853	<b>in the day</b>	<b>of Jerusalem</b>
H2142	H3068	H1121	H123		H3117	H3389
מֵרָא אֵל מְרִים	עָרָו עָרָו	דַּע	עַד	הַיִּסּוֹד	בָּהֶן:	
<b>who said</b>	<b>Rase</b>	<b>Rase</b>	H5704	<b>it even to the foundation</b>	H0	
H559	H6168	H6168		H3247		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Habakkuk 3:13** (Parallel theme): Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.

**Amos 1:11** (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did

pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

**Ezekiel 35:2** (Parallel theme): Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,

**Psalms 74:18** (References Lord): Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O LORD, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name.

**Exodus 17:14** (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

**Hosea 7:2** (Parallel theme): And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.

**1 Samuel 15:2** (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.