

Psalms 83:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.

Analysis

The enemies plot: "They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance" (Hebrew *am-ru l-khu v-nakh-chidem mi-goy v-lo-yizzakher shem-Yisra-el od*). The enemies don't merely want territory but annihilation—erasing Israel's existence and memory. "That the name...may be no more" attacks identity itself. This genocidal intent makes the threat ultimate. Yet God's covenant ensures Israel's survival—enemies fail because they fight God, not just Israel.

Historical Context

Throughout history, empires attempted Israel's destruction: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia (Haman's plot), Greece (Antiochus), Rome. Yet Israel survives. Jeremiah 31:35-37 promises Israel's perpetuity as long as natural laws operate. Anti-Semitism's persistence reveals spiritual warfare—Satan attacks God's covenant people. The church faces similar hatred (John 15:18-20). Yet Christ promises: "the gates of hell shall not prevail" (Matthew 16:18).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing spiritual warfare behind human opposition help you pray strategically?
2. What does Israel's survival against impossible odds teach about God's covenant faithfulness?
3. How does the church's guarantee of survival (Matthew 16:18) provide confidence amid cultural hostility?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר וּ	לָ כֹ	וְנִכְחִידֵם	מִגּוֹי	אֵלָּא
They have said	H1980	and let us cut them off	from being a nation	H3808
H559		H3582	H1471	
יִזְכָּר	שֵׁם	וְשִׁכָּא לְ	עוֹד:	
may be no more in remembrance	that the name	of Israel	H5750	
H2142	H8034	H3478		

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 11:19 (Parallel theme): But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered.

Jeremiah 48:2 (Parallel theme): There shall be no more praise of Moab: in Heshbon they have devised evil against it; come, and let us cut it off from being a nation. Also thou shalt be cut down, O Madmen; the sword shall pursue thee.

Psalms 74:8 (Parallel theme): They said in their hearts, Let us destroy them together: they have burned up all the synagogues of God in the land.

Daniel 7:25 (Parallel theme): And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

Exodus 1:10 (Parallel theme): Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

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