

Zechariah 14:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

Analysis

And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague—the supernatural plague (verse 12) affecting enemy soldiers also strikes their animals. Five animals listed—horse (war mount), mule (transport), camel (desert travel), donkey (burden-bearing), plus 'all beasts'—indicates comprehensive judgment affecting entire enemy camp's logistics and mobility.

This recalls Exodus plagues affecting Egyptians' livestock (Exodus 9:3-6) while Israelite animals were protected—demonstrating God's discriminating judgment. Enemy armies are completely incapacitated: soldiers dying, animals rotting, logistics collapsing. This ensures total victory without Israel needing superior military force. The mention of 'tents' (enemy encampment) emphasizes that judgment strikes armies while still besieging Jerusalem, preventing retreat or regrouping. God's protection of Jerusalem is absolute and overwhelming.

Historical Context

In ancient warfare, animals were crucial for cavalry, supply lines, transport. Their destruction paralyzes armies. This plague accomplishes what Israel couldn't—complete enemy defeat without protracted battle. It demonstrates that God's deliverance doesn't require human military strength, validating Zechariah 4:6: **"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."**

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does judgment extending to animals teach about the comprehensiveness of God's wrath against His enemies?
2. How does this demonstrate God's ability to deliver His people without requiring military superiority?
3. In what ways does modern spiritual warfare involve God striking at 'logistics' (support systems) of evil?

Interlinear Text

וְכָל	וְהָיָה הַ	כַּמִּגַּף הַ	הַסּוֹס	הַפָּרָד	הַגָּמֵל לְ
H3651	H1961	And so shall be the plague	of the horse	of the mule	of the camel
		H4046	H5483	H6505	H1581
וְהָיָה הַ	וְכָל לְ	וְהָיָה הַ	אֲשֶׁר	וְהָיָה הַ	בַּמֶּחֶנֶת וְ
and of the ass	H3605	and of all the beasts	H834	H1961	tents
H2543		H929			H4264
הָהֵם מֵהַ		כַּמִּגַּף הַ	הַזֹּאת:		
that shall be in these	And so shall be the plague		H2063		
H1992	H4046				

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 14:12 (Parallel theme): And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

