

Zechariah 14:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Analysis

This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles (זאת תהיה חטאת מצרים וחטאת) — chatta't can mean sin, sin-offering, or punishment for sin. Here it's punishment/consequence. Egypt and all nations (goyim) face identical judgment for refusing worship obligations. This reiterates verses 17-18's warning, emphasizing certainty of enforcement.

The repetition underscores seriousness: millennial kingdom isn't optional participation. All humanity must acknowledge Yahweh as King and Jerusalem as worship center. This fulfills Philippians 2:10-11: "**That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**" The difference: some bow willingly (believers), others compelled by judgment (rebels). Millennial kingdom demonstrates Christ's rightful sovereignty before final judgment when rebellion is permanently ended (Revelation 20:7-15).

Historical Context

Millennial kingdom serves as final demonstration of human depravity: even under perfect conditions (Christ physically reigning, Satan bound, righteousness enforced), human hearts remain rebellious without regeneration. Nations attempt non-compliance despite consequences, proving that external restraint doesn't change hearts—only grace through faith brings genuine transformation.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does universal punishment for non-worship teach about God's rightful demand for acknowledgment?
2. How does millennial rebellion (despite perfect conditions) demonstrate humanity's core problem is heart rebellion?
3. In what way does enforced worship during millennium differ from voluntary worship characterizing New Jerusalem?

Interlinear Text

זֶה	תְּהִי הַ	יְחֻטָּאת	מִצְרַיִם		
H2063	H1961	This shall be the punishment	of Egypt		
		H2403	H4714		
יְחֻטָּאת	כָּל	הַגּוֹיִם	אֲשֶׁר	לֹא	יָעֹל וְ
This shall be the punishment	H3605	of all nations	H834	H3808	that come not up
H2403		H1471			H5927
לְחַג	אֶת	חַג	הַסֻּכּוֹת:		
to keep	H853	the feast	of tabernacles		
H2287		H2282	H5521		

Additional Cross-References

John 3:19 (Parallel theme): And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

