

# Zechariah 5:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will bring it forth, saith the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

## Analysis

**I will bring it forth, saith the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name**—God personally dispatches the curse: *hōtsē'tīhā* (הַזְצָאתִיכָה, 'I will bring it forth/send it out'), emphasizing divine initiative in judgment. The curse isn't passive consequence but active prosecution. *Ūbā'āh el-bēyt hagannāb ve'el-bēyt hannishbā' bishmi lashshāqer* (וְבָאָה אֶל־בֵּית הַגְּנָבָה וְאֶל־בֵּית הַשְׁבָע בְּשָׁמֵי לְשָׁקֵר) 'and it shall enter the house of the thief and the house of the one swearing by my name falsely')—the scroll invades private dwellings, penetrating where human courts can't reach.

**And it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof**—Total destruction: *velāntāh betōkh bēytō ve'ekillattū ve'et-'ētsa || ve'et-'avānāyw* (וְלֹא נִתְהַקֵּח בְּתוֹךְ בַּיּוֹתָן וְכַלְתָּו וְאֶת־עָצָיו וְאֶת־אַבְנָיו) 'and it shall lodge in the midst of his house and consume it, both timber and stones'). The scroll doesn't merely condemn but demolishes—burning wood and stones, obliterating even structural elements. Fire consumes wood, but destroying stones requires supernatural judgment. This pictures complete ruin: ill-gotten wealth won't endure; lying oaths won't protect property. The vision warns

covenant-breakers that prosperity built on sin will collapse. This foreshadows final judgment when 'the elements shall melt with fervent heat' (2 Peter 3:10).

## Historical Context

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In ancient Near Eastern culture, one's house represented legacy, family name, and accumulated wealth. God promises to destroy the covenant-breaker's inheritance root and branch. This echoes Achan's judgment—his theft brought corporate curse and personal annihilation (Joshua 7). The vision assures that though thieves and liars may prosper temporarily, divine justice will catch up, destroying even the stones of their houses.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the curse 'entering the house' show that sin's judgment extends to our private domains?
2. What does destruction of 'timber and stones' teach about the permanence of wealth gained through sin?
3. How does Christ shelter us from the 'flying scroll' curse that should consume our house?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיִצְחַק I will bring it forth	H3318	יְהִי הַמֶּלֶךְ saith the LORD	H5002 H3068	בְּאֹמֶר of hosts	H6635	וְיִהְרָא וְיִתְבָּא and it shall enter	H935	אֶל H413	וְיִתְבָּא and it shall enter	אֶל					
וְיִתְבָּא and into the house	H1004	וְיִתְבָּא of the thief	H1590	וְיִתְבָּא H413	וְיִתְבָּא and into the house	H1004	וְיִתְבָּא of him that sweareth	H7650	וְיִתְבָּא the thief	וְיִתְבָּא of him that sweareth					
וְיִתְבָּא by my name	H8034	וְיִתְבָּא falsely	H8267	וְיִתְבָּא and it shall remain	H3885	וְיִתְבָּא in the midst	H8432	וְיִתְבָּא and into the house	H1004	וְיִתְבָּא by my name	וְיִתְבָּא falsely	וְיִתְבָּא and it shall remain	וְיִתְבָּא in the midst	וְיִתְבָּא and into the house	
וְיִתְבָּא and shall consume	H3615	וְיִתְבָּא H854	וְיִתְבָּא it with the timber	H6086	וְיִתְבָּא H854	וְיִתְבָּא thereof and the stones	H68	וְיִתְבָּא thereof and the stones	H68	וְיִתְבָּא and shall consume	וְיִתְבָּא H854	וְיִתְבָּא it with the timber	וְיִתְבָּא H854	וְיִתְבָּא thereof and the stones	וְיִתְבָּא H68

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 3:33** (References Lord): The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just.

**Malachi 3:5** (References Lord): And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Job 18:15** (Parallel theme): It shall dwell in his tabernacle, because it is none of his: brimstone shall be scattered upon his habitation.

**Deuteronomy 7:26** (Parallel theme): Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.