

# Zechariah 7:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

## Analysis

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**Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone** (וְלִבָּם שָׁמוּ שֶׁמִיר)—the Hebrew shamir denotes the hardest known substance, harder than flint, used metaphorically for willful, incorrigible rebellion. Israel refused to hear **the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets**—God's Word came through the Spirit's agency via prophets like Isaiah, Hosea, Amos, and Micah, making rejection of prophetic preaching rejection of God Himself.

This hardness wasn't ignorance but deliberate resistance. **Therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts**—divine judgment was inevitable, not arbitrary. When hearts become adamantine against grace, only wrath remains. This anticipates the New Testament warning against grieving (Ephesians 4:30) and quenching (1 Thessalonians 5:19) the Spirit.

## Historical Context

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Written circa 520-518 BC during post-exilic restoration, Zechariah warned the returned remnant not to repeat the sins that brought their fathers into Babylonian captivity (586 BC). The 'former prophets' ministered before the exile, and their unheeded warnings had resulted in seventy years of desolation.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What spiritual practices or convictions might you be hardening your heart against through repeated exposure without response?
2. How does understanding that Scripture comes 'by the Spirit' through prophets affect your approach to biblical authority?
3. What connection exists between resisting God's Word and experiencing His wrath rather than blessing?

## Interlinear Text

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וְלִבָּם	שָׁמוּ	שֶׁמֶן יֵר	מִשְׁמוֹעַ	אֶת	
their hearts	Yea they made	as an adamant stone	lest they should hear		
H3820	H7760	H8068	H8085	H853	
הַתּוֹכָה	וְאֵת	הַדְּבָרִים	אֲשֶׁר	שָׁלַח	יְהוָה
the law		and the words		hath sent	from the LORD
H8451	H853	H1697	H834	H7971	H3068
וּבְרוּחוֹ	בִּיד	הַנְּבִיאִים	הַקְּדָמִים	וְהִי	קֶצֶף
in his spirit	by	prophets	the former		wrath
H7307	H3027	H5030	H7223	H1961	H7110
גָּדוֹל	מְאֹד	יְהוָה	צָבָאֵת:		
therefore came a great		from the LORD	of hosts		
H1419	H853	H3068	H6635		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 11:19** (Spirit): And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:

**2 Chronicles 36:16** (Judgment): But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

**Ezekiel 36:26** (Spirit): A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

**Isaiah 6:10** (Parallel theme): Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

**Acts 28:27** (Parallel theme): For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

**Mark 4:12** (Parallel theme): That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

**Matthew 13:15** (Parallel theme): For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

**Ezekiel 2:4** (References Lord): For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD.