

Zechariah 9:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

Analysis

And the LORD shall be seen over them (וַיֵּהוּהָ עֲלֵיהֶם יִרְאֶה)—divine theophany, God's visible presence in battle, recalls His appearance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:24) and in Judges. **And his arrow shall go forth as the lightning**—God's arrows represent swift, irresistible judgment against Israel's enemies. The imagery shifts: previously Israel was God's bow (v. 13); now God shoots His own arrows.

And the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet (וַיִּנְאֹדֶנִי יְהוָה בְּשׁוֹפָר יִתְקַע)—the shofar signals divine warfare, summoning heavenly armies. **And shall go with whirlwinds of the south** (וְהָלַךְ בְּסַעֲרוֹת תֵּימָן)—sa'arot teiman, the violent desert storms from the south (Negev/Arabia), symbolize God's overwhelming power. This is holy war where Yahweh Himself is the divine warrior, not merely empowering human soldiers.

Historical Context

These verses describe God's direct intervention on behalf of His people during the Maccabean crisis and prophetically point to final eschatological deliverance. The theophanic language evokes God's appearances at Sinai (Exodus 19) and in conquest (Joshua 10), demonstrating covenant continuity.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does knowing that God Himself fights for His people affect your perspective on current spiritual battles?
2. What is the significance of God using natural phenomena (lightning, whirlwinds) as instruments of judgment?
3. In what ways does Christ's second coming fulfill the imagery of divine theophany and warfare in this verse?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי הָאֵלֹהִים	עָלֶיהָ מִן	יֵרָא ה'	וַיֵּצֵא אֱלֹהִים	כְּבֶרֶק קַדְמֹנִית
And the LORD	H5921	shall be seen	shall go forth	as the lightning
H3068		H7200	H3318	H1300
וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם
over them and his arrow	and the Lord	GOD	the trumpet	shall blow
H2671	H136	H3069	H7782	H8628
וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם	וְעַל הָאֲרָצַתָּם
with whirlwinds	of the south			
H5591	H8486			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 18:14 (Light): Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered them; and he shot out lightnings, and discomfited them.

Isaiah 66:15 (References Lord): For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

Isaiah 21:1 (Parallel theme): The burden of the desert of the sea. As whirlwinds in the south pass through; so it cometh from the desert, from a terrible land.

Isaiah 27:13 (References Lord): And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

Zechariah 2:5 (References Lord): For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

Zechariah 14:3 (References Lord): Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

Revelation 6:2 (Parallel theme): And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

Isaiah 30:30 (Light): And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

Habakkuk 3:11 (Light): The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear.