

Zephaniah 2:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the LORD of hosts.

Analysis

This shall they have for their pride (zot lahem tachat ge'onam)—Pride (ga'on) is the root sin behind their mockery. Hebrew ga'on means arrogance, haughtiness, the opposite of the 'meekness' God requires (Zephaniah 2:3).

Because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the LORD of hosts—The verse repeats 2:8's accusation, emphasizing that pride against God's people is pride against God. James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5 quote Proverbs 3:34: 'God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.' Moab and Ammon's downfall illustrates this principle at a national level. Pride always precedes destruction (Proverbs 16:18).

Historical Context

Pride characterized both nations. Moab's arrogance is detailed in Isaiah 16:6: 'We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud.' Ammon's pride led them to trust in fortifications (Jeremiah 49:4). Archaeological evidence shows both invested heavily in military strongholds—which Babylon easily conquered.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does pride manifest in contemporary attitudes toward God's people and God's Word?
2. What is the relationship between personal pride and the downfall of individuals, families, or nations?
3. Where do you need to humble yourself before God, recognizing that self-exaltation invites resistance from God?

Interlinear Text

זֶה	לָהֶם	תִּתְּנוּ	גְּאוֹןָם	כִּי
H2063	H1992	H8478	This shall they have for their pride	H3588
			H1347	
חָרְפוֹ	וַיִּגְדֵּלוּ	עַל	עַם	
because they have reproached	and magnified	H5921	themselves against the people	
H2778	H1431		H5971	
יְהוָה	צְבָאוֹת:			
of the LORD	of hosts			
H3068	H6635			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 16:6 (Parallel theme): We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so.

Jeremiah 48:29 (Parallel theme): We have heard the pride of Moab, (he is exceeding proud) his loftiness, and his arrogancy, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart.

Zephaniah 2:8 (Parallel theme): I have heard the reproach of Moab, and the revilings of the children of Ammon, whereby they have reproached my people, and magnified themselves against their border.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org