

1 Peter 4:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Analysis

Peter quotes Proverbs: if righteous scarcely saved, what about the wicked? Biblical salvation involves suffering, self-denial, endurance. Wicked have no hope.

Historical Context

The path involves suffering for believers. Easy-believism contradicts this. Salvation is free gift yet costly following.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does righteous scarcely saved mean for assurance?
2. How should final judgment reality motivate evangelism?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	εἰ	ὁ	δίκαιος	μόλις	σώζεται	ὁ	ἀσεβὴς	καὶ
And	if	G3588	the righteous	scarcely	be saved	G3588	the ungodly	And
G2532	G1487		G1342	G3433	G4982		G765	G2532
ἀμαρτωλὸς	ποῦ		φανεῖται					
the sinner	where		appear					
G268	G4226		G5316					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 11:31 (Righteousness): Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Ezekiel 18:24 (Righteousness): But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

Luke 23:31 (Parallel theme): For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

Jude 1:15 (Sin): To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

1 Corinthians 10:12 (Parallel theme): Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Acts 14:22 (References God): Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

2 Peter 3:7 (References God): But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Romans 1:18 (Righteousness): For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Zechariah 13:9 (References God): And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

Jeremiah 25:29 (Parallel theme): For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.

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