

1 Samuel 18:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

Analysis

And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

Saul's attempt to 'smite David even to the wall' escalated from jealousy to attempted murder. The Hebrew nakah (to strike) indicates lethal intent. David's escape 'out of his presence twice' demonstrates both divine protection and David's alertness. Saul's willingness to murder during worship indicates how completely sin had corrupted his heart. The twice-repeated attempt shows this was pattern, not momentary madness.

Historical Context

Royal javelins were designed for throwing in combat. Saul's attempt during a private musical session would have left no witnesses to the 'accident' he might have claimed. David's ability to dodge twice suggests he was watching Saul's unstable behavior carefully.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do you remain alert to danger while continuing faithful service?
2. What does Saul's violence teach about where unchecked jealousy ultimately leads?

Interlinear Text

לֹא תִּלְכְּלָה אֶת שָׁאָל יְהִי אָמָר הַפְּנֵן יְהִי אָמָר
cast And Saul H853 the javelin for he said I will smite David
H2904 H7586 H2595 H559 H5221 H1732

פָּנָתִים: מִפְּנֵן יְהִי לֹא תִּלְכְּלָה יְהִי אָמָר
even to the wall avoided out David of his presence twice
H7023 H5437 H1732 H6440 H6471

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 20:33 (References David): And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David.

Isaiah 54:17 (Parallel theme): No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.