

1 Samuel 19:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Analysis

And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Saul's second javelin attack, from which David 'slipped away' (parar, escaped), confirms his oath's worthlessness. The javelin striking the wall instead of David demonstrates divine protection. David's flight 'that night' began his fugitive years. The multiplication of escape narratives emphasizes God's sovereign preservation of His anointed through repeated dangers.

Historical Context

Night flight provided cover for escape. David's departure marked transition from court servant to hunted fugitive. The years ahead would see David moving from place to place, always barely ahead of Saul's pursuit.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. When has narrow escape demonstrated God's protective providence in your life?
2. What does David's transition from honored servant to hunted fugitive teach about faithfully following God's path?

Interlinear Text

שׁוּטָה	וּלְשׂוֹאֵל	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס
sought	And Saul	and he smote	the javelin	David	even to the wall
H1245	H7586	H5221	H2595	H1732	H7023
וַיִּפָּטֵר	וּלְשׂוֹאֵל	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס
but he slipped away	presence	And Saul	and he smote	H853	the javelin
H6362	H6440	H7586	H5221		H2595
וַיִּפָּטֵר	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס	וַיִּכֹּס
even to the wall	David	fled	and escaped	that night	H1931
H7023	H1732	H5127	H4422	H3915	

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 18:11 (References David): 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.

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.

Proverbs 21:30 (Parallel theme): There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.