

1 Samuel 19:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

Analysis

And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

Saul's stripping off clothes and prophesying before Samuel, lying 'naked all that day and all that night,' represents complete exposure and humiliation. The repeated proverb 'Is Saul also among the prophets?' now carried ironic weight - the prophet-rejecting king lay helpless before the prophet. This vulnerable state gave David safe passage to escape while teaching that no power can ultimately resist God's purposes.

Historical Context

'Naked' likely means stripped of royal robes, reduced to undergarments - symbolic dethronement. The duration ('all that day and all that night') exceeded normal prophetic experience. The popular proverb gained new meaning - from surprised praise (10:12) to ironic commentary.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God sometimes strip away pretense and power from those who oppose His purposes?
2. What does Saul's humiliating experience teach about the ultimate futility of resisting divine will?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּפְשַׁט	וְגַם	הָא	בְּגַם	וְגַם	וְגַם
And he stripped off	also	H1931	his clothes	and prophesied	also
H6584	H1571		H899	H5012	H1571
before	Samuel	in like manner and lay down		naked	all that day
H6440	H8050	H5307		H6174	H3117
וְאָמַר וְ	וְגַם	הָא	וְגַם	וְגַם	וְגַם
וְאָמַר וְ	וְגַם	הָא	וְגַם	וְגַם	וְגַם
and all that night		H5921	H3651	Wherefore they say	also
H3605	H3915			H559	H1571
בְּבָבִיאָם:					
Is Saul	also among the prophets				
H7586	H5030				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 20:2 (Parallel theme): At the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

2 Samuel 6:20 (Parallel theme): Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!

Micah 1:8 (Parallel theme): Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.

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