

1 Samuel 20:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?

Analysis

Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?

Saul's volcanic rage against Jonathan - calling him 'son of the perverse rebellious woman' - attacks both Jonathan and his mother. The accusation that Jonathan has 'chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion' correctly perceives Jonathan's loyalty shift but interprets it as betrayal rather than spiritual discernment. Saul's mention of 'thy mother's nakedness' employs shame language indicating how personal his fury had become.

Historical Context

Insulting enemies through their mothers was common ancient practice. The 'perverse rebellious woman' accusation may reflect nothing true about Jonathan's mother. The reference to nakedness suggests sexual shame language used for intense insult.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does uncontrolled anger cause speech that wounds beyond any legitimate grievance?
2. What does Saul's attack on Jonathan's mother reveal about how sin distorts family relationships?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה was kindled H2734	אֵת anger H639	שָׁאוּל Then Saul's H7586	בֵּית וְנָתַן against Jonathan H3083	וַיֹּאמֶר and he said H559	לֹא H0	לְבִן the son H1121
נִפְעָלָה of the perverse H5753	וְהָיָה rebellious H4780	הָלָל וְאֵת H3808	יָד עֲתִידָה woman do not I know H3045	כִּי H3588		
בְּחָרָה that thou hast chosen H977	אֶתָּה H859	לְבִן the son H1121	יֵשׁ of Jesse H3448	וְלִבְ שֶׁת and unto the confusion H1322		
וְלִבְ שֶׁת and unto the confusion H1322	עָרֹם nakedness H6172	אִמְךָ: of thy mother's H517				

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 21:24 (Parallel theme): Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

