

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

לְבָנָו לְזִבְחָה אָמַר בֵּית נָתָת | שָׁאָל אֶרְאָל תִּפְרֹח
the son was kindled anger Then Saul's against Jonathan and he said H0 H1121
H2734 H639 H7586 H3083 H559 H0

כָּל וְאַבְמְרָד וְתַגְעֵן תִּדְעֵן יְדֵי
I know not woman do not I know H3588 H3045 H3808 H4780
of the perverse rebellious H5753 H4045 H5588

וְלִבְנֵךְ שְׁתִּים אֶתְתָּה לְבָנָו יְשִׁיבָה
and unto the confusion the son of Jesse and unto the confusion
that thou hast chosen H977 H859 H1121 H3448 H1322

וְלִבְנֵךְ שְׁתִּים עֲרֵנָה תִּמְבָּבָה
and unto the confusion nakedness of thy mother's
H1322 H6172 H517

Additional Cross-References

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

