

2 Samuel 22:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury.

Analysis

With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury.

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Song, emphasizing praising God for deliverance. David's psalm of deliverance (parallel to Psalm 18) celebrates God's faithfulness throughout his tumultuous reign. The Hebrew poetry employs vivid imagery of divine intervention, warrior language, and covenant terminology. Theological themes include praising God for deliverance, reviewing God's faithfulness in retrospect, the righteousness of God's judgments, and anticipation of ultimate victory through God's anointed (messianic overtones).

Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 22 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding praising God for deliverance provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of praising God for deliverance?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

Interlinear Text

עִם	תָּמִיבָּר	תָּמִיבָּר	וְעִם	עַלְעַלְשָׁ
H5973	With the pure	With the pure	H5973	and with the froward

תַּתְפִּל
thou wilt shew thyself unsavoury

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 5:8 (Parallel theme): Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Psalms 18:26 (Parallel theme): With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

Isaiah 45:9 (Parallel theme): Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

Psalms 125:5 (Parallel theme): As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: but peace shall be upon Israel.

Exodus 18:11 (Parallel theme): Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them.

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