

2 Samuel 22:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou hast girded me with strength to battle: them that rose up against me hast thou subdued under me.

Analysis

For thou hast girded me with strength to battle: them that rose up against me hast thou subdued under me.

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

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

תְּכַר יְעַזְּרֵבֶל	לְמַלְכָתְךָ הַמְלָכָתְךָ	מִלְכָתְךָ הַמִּלְכָתְךָ	וְתַצְרֵב בְּנֵי
For thou hast girded me with strength	to battle	against me hast thou subdued	
H247	H2428	H4421	H3766

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 44:5 (Parallel theme): Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.

Isaiah 60:14 (Parallel theme): The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at

the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Colossians 1:11 (Parallel theme): Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

Psalms 18:39 (Parallel theme): For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.