

Deuteronomy 28:67

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

Analysis

In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning!—this captures the psychology of despair: wishing away the present moment, unable to find relief. The Hebrew *mî-yitten 'ereb...* *mî-yitten bōqer* (מִי־יִתְן עָרֵב... מִי־יִתְן בָּקָר) 'who will give evening... who will give morning') is literally 'O that it were evening/morning!' The idiom expresses desperate longing for escape. **For the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see**—both internal terror and external horrors make life unbearable.

This is clinical depression and trauma— inability to find peace at any time. Morning brings fresh fears; evening brings no rest. The 'fear of thine heart' is anxiety; the 'sight of thine eyes' is witnessing atrocities. Holocaust survivors describe exactly this experience—waking hoping to wake from the nightmare, sleeping hoping not to wake to reality. Time becomes an enemy rather than a blessing.

Historical Context

Job expressed similar despair (Job 7:4). Lamentations echoes this (Lamentations 3:1-20). Josephus records that during the Roman siege, death was preferable to

life. Holocaust testimonies repeatedly describe this psychological state—preferring death to continued suffering but unable to die.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this passage describe the hell of living under God's wrath?
2. What does the inability to find rest at any time teach about the nature of judgment?
3. How does Christ's experience of God-forsakenness on the cross mean we never need fear this condition?

Interlinear Text

וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב	וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב	וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב וְבָאָה בְּבֹבֶב
In the morning thou shalt say H1242	תָּאָמַר קְיִם בְּבֹבֶב H4310	וְיִתְהַלֵּל בְּבֹבֶב H5414
thou shalt say H559	Would God it were H4310	Would God it were H5414
לְבָבֶב מִפְּנֵד	לְבָבֶב מִפְּנֵד	לְבָבֶב מִפְּנֵד
thou shalt say H559	Would God it were H4310	In the morning for the fear H1242
אֲשֶׁר עִינֵּיךְ וּמִפְּרָאָה הַ	אֲשֶׁר עִינֵּיךְ וּמִפְּרָאָה הַ	אֲשֶׁר עִינֵּיךְ וּמִפְּרָאָה הַ
wherewith thou shalt fear H834	תִּפְאַח דְּ	and for the sight of thine eyes H4758
תְּרַאָה:		
which thou shalt see H7200		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 28:34 (Parallel theme): So that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

Revelation 9:6 (Parallel theme): And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.

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