

Hosea 13:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath.

Analysis

I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath. God gave Israel kings as judgment (granting sinful request, 1 Samuel 8:7) and removed them in wrath (exile, assassination). Both giving and taking stem from divine displeasure. Romans 1:24, 26, 28 similarly describes God giving people up to sin's consequences as judgment. Sometimes getting what we demand is itself punishment. Only God's gracious refusals protect us. His no often expresses love; our yes often reveals idol worship. Christ provides what we actually need rather than what we wrongly want.

Historical Context

Israel's monarchy alternated between God's patience and judgment. He gave kings (tolerating institution), then removed them (assassinations, exile). The entire monarchy existed under divine displeasure, being rejection of His kingship. Assyria's conquest ended it permanently. Modern application: God sometimes grants sinful desires as form of judgment - experiencing consequences teaches better than words. His gracious denials protect us; His reluctant permissions discipline us. Only pursuing what God commands rather than what we want provides safety. Christ reorients desires toward God's will through regeneration.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God sometimes giving what we sinfully demand as form of judgment warn against persistent demands for our way?
2. What wrongly desired things might God grant as discipline rather than blessing, letting me experience consequences?

Interlinear Text

בָּאָתִי לְךָ מִלְּךָ בְּאָפָּי וְאֶקְרַבְתִּי
I gave thee a king in mine anger and took him away in my wrath
H5414 H4428 H639 H3947 H5678

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 10:19 (Kingdom): And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands.

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