

Job 5:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate, neither is there any to deliver them.

Analysis

Eliphaz describes the wicked's fate: 'His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate, neither is there any to deliver them.' The 'gate' was where legal judgments occurred in ancient cities. Eliphaz implies Job's children died because of Job's hidden sin—a particularly cruel accusation given Job's grief. This shows how false theology not only misdiagnoses suffering but adds guilt and shame to pain, whereas true gospel comfort separates suffering from automatic judgment.

Historical Context

Legal proceedings in ancient Near Eastern cities occurred at the city gate, where elders judged disputes. Being 'crushed in the gate' meant suffering legal defeat and injustice with no advocate to defend.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do you respond to those who attribute your suffering or loss to hidden sin?
2. What comfort does the gospel provide against accusations that our losses prove God's judgment?

Interlinear Text

יָרֵמֶק וְ	בְּנֵי יוֹ	מִי שָׁעַ	וַיִּדְכָּא וְ	בַּ שַׁ עַר	וְאֵין
are far	His children	from safety	and they are crushed	in the gate	H369
H7368	H1121	H3468	H1792	H8179	

מַצִּיל:
neither is there any to deliver
H5337

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 127:5 (Parallel theme): Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Psalms 119:155 (Parallel theme): Salvation is far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.