

Lamentations 3:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgot prosperity.

Analysis

Soul removed from peace, forgetting prosperity. Depression when blessing seems permanently lost. Yet verse 21 turns toward hope.

Historical Context

Seventy-year exile meant most would die before restoration. Prosperity seemed permanently gone.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do we maintain faith when blessing feels permanently lost?
2. What does it mean to have 'peace' removed from the soul, and how does this relate to alienation from God?

3. How can believers maintain hope when prosperity and inner peace seem permanently lost?

Interlinear Text

וַתִּזְנוּ ח	מִשְׁלָם וּ	נַפְשִׁי י	נָשִׁי יִתִּי	טוֹבָה:
And thou hast removed	from peace	my soul	I forgot	prosperity
H2186	H7965	H5315	H5382	H2896

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 59:11 (Parallel theme): We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.

Isaiah 54:10 (Peace): For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

Isaiah 38:17 (Peace): Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

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

Job 7:7 (Parallel theme): O remember that my life is wind: mine eye shall no more see good.

Jeremiah 14:19 (Peace): Hast thou utterly rejected Judah? hath thy soul lothed Zion? why hast thou smitten us, and there is no healing for us? we looked for peace, and there is no good; and for the time of healing, and behold trouble!

Jeremiah 8:15 (Peace): We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble!

Jeremiah 16:5 (Peace): For thus saith the LORD, Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, even lovingkindness and mercies.

Zechariah 8:10 (Peace): For before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction: for I set all men every one against his neighbour.

Genesis 41:30 (Parallel theme): And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

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