

Lamentations 4:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.

Analysis

Those raised delicately desolate; those in scarlet embrace dunghills. Complete status reversal. Pride humbled.

Historical Context

Jerusalem aristocracy went from luxury to degradation. Archaeological evidence shows sharp class distinction.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does suffering humble pride and teach dependence?
2. What does the reversal of fortune (luxury to desolation) teach about the emptiness of earthly privilege?
3. How should believers view material comfort in light of its potential loss under judgment?

Interlinear Text

בְּחֹצֶת וְתָשְׁפָתִים
בְּחֹצֶת וְתָשְׁפָתִים
לֹמְדָתָן יְמִים
לֹמְדָתָן יְמִים
פָּאָכְלִים
פָּאָכְלִים
They that did feed
They that did feed
H398
H398
delicately
delicately
H4574
H4574
are desolate
are desolate
H8074
H8074
in the streets
in the streets
H2351
H2351

אַשְׁפְּתָתִותִים חַבְקָקָן וְתָזְלָעָן
אַשְׁפְּתָתִותִים חַבְקָקָן וְתָזְלָעָן
פָּאָמְנִים
פָּאָמְנִים
they that were brought up
they that were brought up
H539
H539
in scarlet
in scarlet
H8438
H8438
embrace
embrace
H2263
H2263
dunghills
dunghills
H830
H830

Additional Cross-References

Luke 15:16 (Parallel theme): And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

Luke 16:19 (Parallel theme): There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

Proverbs 31:21 (Parallel theme): She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

1 Timothy 5:6 (Parallel theme): But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

Luke 7:25 (Parallel theme): But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.

2 Samuel 1:24 (Parallel theme): Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.