

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

הָאֲכָלִים	לְמַ עֲדַנִּים	נָשׁ מוֹ	בְּחוּצוֹת
They that did feed	delicately	are desolate	in the streets
H398	H4574	H8074	H2351

הָאֲמָנִים	עַלִּי	תוֹלַעַ	חֶבְקָה	אֲשָׁפְתוֹת:
they that were brought up	H5921	in scarlet	embrace	dunghills
H539		H8438	H2263	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 appavelled, 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.