

Lamentations 5:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.

Analysis

Slaves rule over us, none delivers. Ultimate indignity—ruled by those who should be servants.

Historical Context

Babylonian officials, often former slaves, ruled over Judean nobility in exile.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does inverted social order demonstrate sovereignty over hierarchies?
2. What is the spiritual significance of being ruled by servants (those of lower status)?
3. How does this role reversal express the depth of Judah's degradation and powerlessness?

Interlinear Text

עֲבָדִים	מִשְׁלֹ	בְּנוֹ	פֶּיךָ קֵן	אֵין
Servants	have ruled	H0	over us there is none that doth deliver	H369
H5650	H4910		H6561	
מִדָּם:				
us out of their hand				
H3027				

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 5:15 (Parallel theme): But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

Zechariah 11:6 (Parallel theme): For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

Psalms 7:2 (Parallel theme): Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.

Proverbs 30:22 (Parallel theme): For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat;