

Luke 20:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Till I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Analysis

Till I make thine enemies thy footstool (ἔως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἔχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου, heōs an thō tous echthrous sou hypopodion tōn podōn sou)—This continues quoting Psalm 110:1. Heōs an (until) introduces temporal clause: Christ sits enthroned while enemies remain unconquered, but their subjugation is certain. Hypopodion (footstool) references ancient victory customs where conquering kings placed feet on defeated enemies' necks (Joshua 10:24), symbolizing total domination.

The Father (kyrios, LORD) will make (thō, aorist subjunctive of tithēmi) Christ's enemies His footstool—not Christ earning victory through struggle, but the Father granting it as coronation gift. Paul applies this to Christ's ultimate triumph: 'For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death' (1 Corinthians 15:25-26). Currently, Christ reigns; ultimately, all opposition will be publicly, permanently crushed.

Historical Context

In Jesus's day, Rome seemed invincible—yet within decades, the gospel spread throughout the empire. Historical empires that opposed Christ (Rome, Nazi Germany, Soviet Communism) have all fallen, while His kingdom endures. The final fulfillment awaits Revelation 19-20's description of Christ's return and millennial reign.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does Christ's patient waiting for enemies' defeat teach about God's timing and sovereignty?
2. How should knowing all Christ's enemies (including death itself) will become His footstool affect your response to current opposition and suffering?
3. Which enemies—personal, spiritual, or systemic—are you trusting Christ to ultimately defeat?

Interlinear Text

ἔως	ἄν	θῶ	τοὺς	ἐχθρούς	σου	ὑποπόδιον	τῶν	ποδῶν
Till	G302	I make	G3588	enemies	thine	G5286	G3588	footstool
G2193		G5087		G2190	G4675			G4228

σου

thine

G4675

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 110:1 (Parallel theme): The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Luke 19:27 (Parallel theme): But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me.