

Proverbs 1:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

Analysis

The final enticement: 'Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse.' This promise of communal sharing and equal distribution appeals to fairness and brotherhood. Yet this 'brotherhood' is founded on violence and theft. The single purse represents socialist equality in distribution of stolen goods. This exposes how evil can co-opt good concepts (sharing, community) for wicked purposes. True brotherhood serves others; false brotherhood exploits victims. The one purse creates corporate guilt—all share in the crime.

Historical Context

Casting lots was common in ancient decision-making, determining distribution of resources or responsibilities. A shared purse represented economic partnership and mutual obligation. Bandit gangs in antiquity operated through such economic cooperation—equal risk, equal reward. This pseudo-community appealed to young men seeking belonging, but founded fellowship on violence rather than virtue. True covenant community serves; counterfeit community exploits.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does evil's co-opting of community language warn us to examine foundations, not merely forms, of fellowship?
2. What does the shared purse teach us about corporate responsibility—we share in guilt for groups we join?

Interlinear Text

לְכַלְנוּ אֶתְנָהָר אֶתְלָבֶן
in thy lot Cast among us let us all have one

H1486 H5307 H8432 H3599 H259 H1961 H3605

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