

Proverbs 10:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.

Analysis

The hope of the righteous shall be gladness, but the expectation of the wicked shall perish. What the righteous anticipate (blessing, God's favor) will come to fruition in joy. What the wicked expect (success through evil) will fail utterly. This verse grounds ethics in eschatology - ultimate outcomes vindicate righteousness and expose wickedness's futility. Present circumstances don't determine final outcomes; God's justice does.

Historical Context

Reflects biblical theology where present suffering gives way to future glory for the righteous, while present prosperity gives way to future judgment for the wicked. Temporal and eternal outcomes diverge dramatically.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What hopes sustain you, and do they reflect righteous or wicked expectations?

2. How does confidence in ultimate outcomes affect your response to present circumstances?

Interlinear Text

תוֹֹֿ לָת	צַדִּיקִים	שְׂמֵחַ ה	וְתִקְוָת	רָשָׁעִים
The hope	of the righteous	shall be gladness	but the expectation	of the wicked
H8431	H6662	H8057	H8615	H7563
תֵּאֲבֹד׃				
shall perish				
H6				

Additional Cross-References

Job 8:13 (Hope): So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish:

Romans 15:13 (Hope): Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Proverbs 11:7 (Righteousness): When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth.