

Proverbs 14:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Analysis

Righteousness exalts nations, demonstrating God's governance extends beyond individuals to corporate entities. Sin brings national reproach and divine judgment. This establishes moral foundation for civil government and national policy, calling societies to align with God's justice.

Historical Context

Israel's history demonstrated this principle—obedience brought national blessing, while apostasy invited conquest and exile. The prophets consistently called the nation to corporate repentance.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you pray for and work toward righteousness in your nation?
2. What sins bring reproach on your society that require prophetic address?

Interlinear Text

צִדְקָה	תְּרוֹמָם	גּוֹי	וְהוּא	לְאִמּוֹת	חַטָּאת:
Righteousness	exalteth	a nation	is a reproach	to any people	but sin
H6666	H7311	H1471	H2617	H3816	H2403

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 107:34 (Parallel theme): A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

Hosea 13:1 (Parallel theme): When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.

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