

Proverbs 16:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Analysis

When a person's ways please the LORD, even enemies are at peace with them. This promises providential protection for the obedient, though not immunity from all conflict. God can turn hearts (as He did with Joseph's brothers) or restrain opposition when it serves His purposes.

Historical Context

David experienced both versions—Saul's relentless pursuit and Philistines' surprising acceptance when David walked with God. God's sovereignty over human hearts was repeatedly demonstrated in Israel's history.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does pursuing God's pleasure rather than others' approval affect your relationships?
2. Where has God given you favor with unlikely people when you walked obediently?

Interlinear Text

בְּרַצ וְ	! הָה	דְּרָכֵי	אֵשׁ	גַּם	א וְיָבִי
please	the LORD	ways	When a man's	H1571	he maketh even his enemies
H7521	H3068	H1870	H376		H341
וְשָׁלֵם	אֶתָּו:				
to be at peace	H854				
H7999					

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

1 John 3:22 (Parallel theme): And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

Colossians 1:10 (References Lord): That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

2 Chronicles 17:10 (References Lord): And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.

Jeremiah 15:11 (References Lord): The LORD said, Verily it shall be well with thy remnant; verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well in the time of evil and in the time of affliction.

Hebrews 13:21 (Parallel theme): Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Genesis 33:4 (Parallel theme): And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

Colossians 3:20 (References Lord): Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Genesis 32:28 (Parallel theme): And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Philippians 4:18 (Parallel theme): But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org