

Proverbs 21:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The soul of the wicked desireth evil: his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes.

Analysis

The wicked possess insatiable appetites for evil—their very 'soul desireth evil.' This isn't mere occasional sin but settled disposition and constant craving. Such a person shows no compassion even to neighbors ('findeth no favour in his eyes'). The reprobate heart is so consumed with wickedness that it views everyone as potential victims or obstacles. This reveals total depravity: without God's restraining grace, humans naturally pursue evil relentlessly. The wicked person's desires are perverted, finding pleasure in what should produce revulsion. Only divine regeneration can transform such hearts, replacing the desire for evil with love for God and neighbor. Until then, the unregenerate naturally hate both God and man.

Historical Context

Biblical anthropology rejects the Enlightenment's optimistic view of human nature. Scripture consistently portrays natural humanity as enslaved to sin, needing supernatural deliverance.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What desires in your heart reveal remnants of the old nature that must be mortified?
2. How does understanding the wicked's insatiable evil help you appreciate salvation's wonder?

Interlinear Text

נַפְשׁ	כִּשְׁע	אַתָּה	כִּע	לֹא	יֵד	בְּעֵינָיו
The soul	of the wicked	desireth	evil	H3808	findeth no favour	in his eyes
H5315	H7563	H183	H7451		H2603	H5869
רֵעֵהוּ:						
his neighbour						
H7453						

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 3:29 (Evil): Devise not evil against thy neighbour, seeing he dwelleth securely by thee.

1 John 2:16 (Parallel theme): For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.