

Proverbs 6:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

Analysis

The rhetorical question exposes the self-destructive nature of sexual sin. Fire represents uncontrollable passion—taking it to one's bosom ensures injury. Sin's consequences are built into the moral fabric of reality; God's prohibitions protect us from harm, not arbitrarily restrict pleasure.

Historical Context

Fire in ancient households required constant vigilance to prevent disaster. A single hot coal could destroy an entire dwelling, making this metaphor powerfully immediate to original hearers.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What sins do you treat as manageable that actually threaten to consume you?
2. How does understanding consequences help you flee temptation more effectively?

Interlinear Text

הִיָּחַתְּ הַ	אִישׁ	אֵשׁ	בְּחִיקוֹ	וּ בְגָדָיו	לֹא	תִשְׂרָפָה:
take	Can a man	fire	in his bosom	and his clothes	H3808	not be burned
H2846	H376	H784	H2436	H899		H8313

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