

Psalms 102:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.

Analysis

The psalmist attributes his suffering to God's 'wrath' (za'am) and 'indignation' (qetseph), recognizing divine sovereignty over affliction. The imagery of being 'lifted up' only to be 'cast down' suggests that previous blessings now intensify the pain of loss. This honest acknowledgment of God's hand in suffering reflects mature faith that doesn't blame circumstances or others but recognizes God's purposes. Christ bore God's full wrath against sin (Rom 3:25), exhausting divine indignation so believers experience only fatherly discipline, never condemnation.

Historical Context

Hebrew theology consistently attributed all events, including suffering, to God's sovereign will. Unlike pagan religions that blamed lesser deities or fate, Israel understood that the one true God controlled all circumstances for His purposes.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does acknowledging God's sovereignty in your suffering differ from blaming Him?
2. What comfort does Christ's bearing of God's wrath provide when you face trials?

Interlinear Text

מִפְּנֵי	זַעַמְךָ	וְקֶזֶפְךָ	כִּי	נִשְׁאַתָּה נִי
Because	of thine indignation	and thy wrath	H3588	for thou hast lifted me up
H6440	H2195	H7110		H5375

וַתִּשְׁלִיכֵנִי:

and cast me down

H7993

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 38:3 (Parallel theme): There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.

Psalms 147:6 (Parallel theme): The LORD lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground.