

Psalm 107:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.

Analysis

This verse describes contrasting responses to God's works. 'The righteous shall see it, and rejoice' shows the godly respond to God's justice with joy. 'Righteous' (yashar, יְשָׁרָם) means upright, straight. 'Rejoice' (samach, סָמַךְ) means to be glad. Seeing God exalt the poor and judge wickedness produces rejoicing in those aligned with God's character. 'And all iniquity shall stop her mouth' shows the wicked are silenced. 'Iniquity' (avlah, אַלְמָנָה) means perverseness, injustice. When God acts, the wicked have no defense or rebuttal—their mouths are stopped. This anticipates final judgment when every knee bows and every mouth confesses Christ's lordship (Philippians 2:10-11).

Historical Context

Throughout Scripture, God's righteous acts evoke contrasting responses. At the Red Sea, Israel sang while Egypt was silenced (Exodus 15). When exiles returned, faithful Jews rejoiced while opponents' accusations were refuted (Ezra 3:11-13; Nehemiah 6:16). At Christ's return, believers will rejoice while the wicked are rendered speechless before the Judge (Matthew 22:12; Jude 15). God's vindication of righteousness and judgment of evil is coming, producing joy for some and silence for others.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How should God's justice produce rejoicing in believers?
2. What does the silencing of iniquity teach about final judgment?
3. How can we cultivate hearts that rejoice when God vindicates righteousness and judges evil?

Interlinear Text

רִא אֶת־יְשָׁרָם חֹזֶק וְשָׁרֵם יָמֶן וְכֹל וְעַל־הַר וְכֹל פְּצָחָה וְכֹל פִּיכָּה:
shall see The righteous it and rejoice and all iniquity shall stop her mouth

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Additional Cross-References

Psalms 63:11 (Parallel theme): But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Job 22:19 (Righteousness): The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn.

Romans 3:19 (Parallel theme): Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Psalms 52:6 (Righteousness): The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him:

Proverbs 10:11 (Righteousness): The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

Isaiah 66:14 (Parallel theme): And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

Psalms 112:10 (Parallel theme): The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

Exodus 11:7 (Parallel theme): But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

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