

Psalm 122:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

Analysis

The prayer for peace continues: 'Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.' The parallelism pairs 'peace' with 'prosperity' and 'walls' with 'palaces' - external defense (walls) and internal structures (palaces) both require divine blessing. Walls provided physical security from enemies, while palaces represented governmental stability and leadership. Peace within walls means safety from external threats; prosperity within palaces suggests wise, just leadership. This verse recognizes that both defensive security and internal governance depend on God. Human walls and palaces cannot guarantee peace or prosperity apart from divine blessing. The prayer implicitly acknowledges that God alone establishes and maintains shalom in His city.

Historical Context

Jerusalem's walls were rebuilt multiple times after destruction (Nehemiah's walls, Herodian walls). Palaces housed royal administration and symbolized governmental strength. The prayer recognizes that physical structures alone don't ensure safety - God must guard the city (Psalm 127:1).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do 'walls' and 'palaces' represent both physical and spiritual realities?
2. What is the relationship between external security (walls) and internal order (palaces)?
3. Why must we pray for peace and prosperity rather than merely building stronger defenses?
4. How does this prayer apply to the church as God's temple today?
5. In what ways does political stability serve the spiritual purposes of God's people?

Interlinear Text

בָּאָרֶם נְזֹתִיר: שֶׁ לֹּא הַבְּחִילָה שֶׁל אָמֵן יְהִי
H1961 Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces
H7965 H2426 H7962 H759

Additional Cross-References

John 14:27 (Peace): Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Psalms 48:3 (Parallel theme): God is known in her palaces for a refuge.

James 3:18 (Peace): And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Isaiah 9:7 (Peace): Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 54:13 (Peace): And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.

Psalms 48:13 (Parallel theme): Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following.

