

Psalms 141:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood upon the earth.

Analysis

Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth wood. Describes battlefield aftermath or near-death metaphor. Life chopped up, scattered at death's door. Yet verse 8 turns to God with confidence. This characterizes lament—brutal honesty followed by faith-filled petition.

Historical Context

David wrote during persecution. Ancient battlefields were gruesome—bodies unburied, bones scattered. Proper burial mattered; scattered bones represented ultimate dishonor.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does graphic imagery validate expressing desperate circumstances?
2. When have you felt "scattered" at death's door?
3. How does shifting to confidence model faith's movement from lament to trust?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	כִּי	פָּלָת	וּבָקָע	בְּאָרֶץ	נִפְגַּשׁ
H3644	as when one cutteth	H1234	and cleaveth	H776	wood upon the earth
H6398		H1234		H776	are scattered
					H6340
שָׁאוֹל:	לְפָנָי	עַצְמָתָנוּ			
Our bones	mouth	at the grave's			
H6106	H6310	H7585			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 53:5 (Parallel theme): There were they in great fear, where no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee: thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them.

Romans 8:36 (Parallel theme): As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

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