

Psalm 18:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.

Analysis

God equipped ('azar'—girded) David with strength for battle, subduing adversaries beneath him. The repetition of divine enablement emphasizes that victory comes from God, not human might. The subduing ('kara') under him continues the footstool imagery. This parallels Ephesians 6:10's command to be strong in the Lord's strength, not our own. Reformed theology attributes all success to sovereign grace.

Historical Context

David's military success came not from superior numbers or weaponry but from divine empowerment, as seen in victories against overwhelming odds (1 Samuel 17).

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. In what battles do you try to rely on your own strength rather than God's?
2. How do you actively seek divine enablement for spiritual warfare?

Interlinear Text

וְתַאֲגָּד בְּ	לְאַלְפָתָה	לְמִלְחָמָה	פָּכָר יְ
For thou hast girded me with strength	unto the battle	thou hast subdued	
H247	H2428	H4421	H3766
בְּמִן	תְּחַפֵּה		
under me those that rose up			
H6965	H8478		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 18:32 (Parallel theme): It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.

Isaiah 45:14 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.

Psalms 34:21 (Parallel theme): Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

Proverbs 8:36 (Parallel theme): But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Ephesians 1:22 (Parallel theme): And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

1 Chronicles 22:18 (Parallel theme): Is not the LORD your God with you? and hath he not given you rest on every side? for he hath given the inhabitants of the

land into mine hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before his people.

John 15:23 (Parallel theme): He that hateth me hateth my Father also.

Lamentations 5:5 (Parallel theme): Our necks are under persecution: we labour, and have no rest.

Psalms 66:3 (Parallel theme): Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.

Philippians 3:21 (Parallel theme): Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

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