

Psalms 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

Analysis

Divine wrath follows divine laughter - God's patience has limits. The Hebrew 'aph' (wrath) and 'charon' (sore displeasure) are strong covenant terms, indicating not arbitrary anger but righteous judicial response to covenant violation. God's speaking 'in his wrath' reminds us that judgment is not merely punitive but declarative - God pronounces what is already true about rebellious hearts. This verse should drive sinners to Christ, our only refuge from the wrath to come (1 Thessalonians 1:10).

Historical Context

This verse reflects ancient Near Eastern treaty language where suzerains would warn vassal nations of consequences for rebellion. In Israel's context, it assured God's people that their enemies would face divine judgment. The early church saw this fulfilled when Jerusalem fell in 70 AD and continues to await final eschatological fulfillment.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does the reality of God's wrath against sin deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice?
2. Do you take God's patience as an opportunity for repentance or as permission to continue in sin?

Interlinear Text

אָ ז	יִדְבָּר	אֵל יִמּוֹ	בְּאַפּוֹ
H227	Then shall he speak	H413	unto them in his wrath
	H1696		H639
וַיִּבְחָרוּ	וַיִּבְהִלּוּ:		
them in his sore displeasure	and vex		
H2740	H926		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 11:4 (Judgment): But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Revelation 19:15 (Judgment): And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Psalms 21:9 (Judgment): Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them.

Luke 19:27 (Parallel theme): But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me.

Isaiah 66:6 (Parallel theme): A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

Zechariah 1:15 (Parallel theme): And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

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