

Psalms 38:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh.

Analysis

For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh. The loins (לִבְדָּ, *kesel*, seat of vitality/reproductive power) are filled with loathsome disease (נִקְלָה, *nikleh*, something burned/scorched). This repeats v.3's 'no soundness' (מֶתוֹם, *metom*), emphasizing total corruption from core to surface.

Loins represent strength, vigor, procreative power—life's generative force. Their being 'scorched' or 'diseased' suggests complete depletion. Whether literal illness or metaphor, David experiences sin's destruction at his very source of vitality. This anticipates Christ bearing sin's full curse—disease, shame, separation—in our place (Isaiah 53:4-5).

Historical Context

Loins in Hebrew thought represented not just reproductive organs but the center of physical strength and emotional passion. Girding the loins meant preparing for battle or work. Diseased loins meant total incapacitation—unable to fight, work, or generate life. This would effectively end David's kingship if permanent.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does sin attack the very 'loins' (core vitality) of your spiritual life, draining energy for godly pursuits?
2. What does the progression from surface wounds (v.5) to core disease (v.7) teach about sin's deepening destruction?
3. Where do you need Christ's healing for the 'loathsome disease' at the center of recurring sin patterns?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	כִּי סֵלִי	מְלֵא וְ	נִקְלָה הַ	אֵי יוֹ
H3588	For my loins	are filled	with a loathsome	H369
	H3689	H4390	H7033	
מְּתָם		בְּבָשָׁרִי:		
disease and there is no soundness		in my flesh		
H4974		H1320		

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