

Psalm 41:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity: his heart gathereth iniquity to itself; when he goeth abroad, he telleth it.

Analysis

The hypocrisy of David's enemy is exposed: outwardly speaking 'vanity' (flattering words) while inwardly gathering 'iniquity' against him. The phrase 'when he goeth abroad, he telleth it' reveals the two-faced nature of the betrayer--friendly in person, slanderous behind David's back. This treachery wounds more deeply than open opposition.

Historical Context

The intimate betrayal described here foreshadows Judas's kiss in Gethsemane. Both David and Jesus experienced friends turned enemies, those who shared fellowship becoming instruments of destruction.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does hidden hostility disguised as friendship particularly wound us?

2. What protections exist against those who gather iniquity in their hearts while speaking smoothly?

Interlinear Text

וְאִם	בְּאֵת	לְרֹא	וְתַּחַת	שִׁיאָה	יִדְבֶּר	לְבָבָן	יִקְבֶּץ
H518	And if he come	to see		vanity	he telleth	his heart	gathereth
H935		H7200		H7723	H1696	H3820	H6908

עֵינָיו	לְזִוְלָה	יִצְחַק	לְחַזְקָה	יִדְבֶּר
iniquity	^{H0} to itself when he goeth		abroad	he telleth

| H205 | | H3318 | H2351 | H1696 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 12:2 (Parallel theme): They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

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