

Psalms 43:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou art the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

Analysis

The paradox intensifies: 'Thou art the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off?' Faith affirms God's power while honestly acknowledging felt abandonment. 'Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?' repeats the question from 42:9, emphasizing that faith persists even when answers don't come.

Historical Context

This pattern of affirming God's character while questioning His actions models mature faith that holds confession and complaint together. It rejects both denial of suffering and denial of faith.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How can we simultaneously affirm 'Thou art the God of my strength' while feeling 'cast off'?
2. What does persistent questioning in prayer reveal about the nature of faith?

Interlinear Text

אַתָּה	אֱלֹהִים	מַעֲזִים	לְמַתְהָ
H3588	H859	For thou art the God	of my strength
		H430	H4581
בְּלֹא	אַתָּמֵלָה	לְמַתָּה	לְמַתְהָ
why dost thou cast me off	I mourning	why go	because of the oppression
H2186	H4100	H6937	H1980
אוֹבֵב:			H3906
of the enemy			
H341			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 42:9 (References God): I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

Psalms 28:7 (Parallel theme): The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Ephesians 6:10 (Parallel theme): Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Isaiah 40:31 (Parallel theme): But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 45:24 (Parallel theme): Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

Psalms 94:14 (Parallel theme): For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance.

Psalms 140:7 (References God): O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle.

Zechariah 10:12 (Parallel theme): And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

Psalms 71:9 (Parallel theme): Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.

Psalms 44:9 (Parallel theme): But thou hast cast off, and put us to shame; and goest not forth with our armies.