

# Psalms 44:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou makest us to turn back from the enemy: and they which hate us spoil for themselves.

## Analysis

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Retreat replaces victory: 'Thou makest us to turn back from the enemy.' Those who hate Israel now 'spoil for themselves'--taking plunder that should have been Israel's. The reversal is complete: instead of pushing down enemies (v.5), they are pushed back; instead of putting foes to shame (v.7), they experience shame.

## Historical Context

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Military defeat meant not only casualties but economic devastation as conquering armies plundered livestock, crops, and valuables. The spoiling represented both material loss and theological crisis.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does experiencing reversal of expected outcomes challenge our theology?
2. What does it reveal that the psalmist attributes even defeat to God's action?

## Interlinear Text

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תַּשִּׁיבֵנוּ	אָחוּר מִנִּי	צָר מִן	וּמִשָּׂנְאֵי יָנוּ
<b>Thou makest us to turn</b>	<b>back</b>	<b>from the enemy</b>	<b>and they which hate</b>
H7725	H268	H4480 H6862	H8130
לָנוּ: שָׁסוּ			
<b>us spoil</b>			
H8154			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 7:8** (Parallel theme): O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!

**Leviticus 26:17** (Parallel theme): And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

**Psalms 89:41** (Parallel theme): All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.

**Joshua 7:12** (Parallel theme): Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.

**Deuteronomy 28:25** (Parallel theme): The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.