

# 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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1. מִשְׁתָּא אַנְתָּא תִּשְׁיבֵנִי	אַנְתָּא מִפְּנֵי אֹיְבֵינוּ מִן־אַחֲרֵינוּ	לְמַן שְׁסַבֵּלְךָ
Thou makest us to turn	back	from the enemy

H7725 H268 H4480 H6862 and they which hate H8130

us spoil H0 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.