

Psalms 44:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou makest us a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and a derision to them that are round about us.

Analysis

Public humiliation compounds military defeat: 'Thou makest us a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and a derision to them that are round about us.' Israel's neighbors, often covenant enemies, now mock the nation that claimed special relationship with the Almighty. The watching world judges God by His people's circumstances.

Historical Context

Surrounding nations like Edom, Moab, and Ammon historically rejoiced at Israel's misfortunes. Their mockery challenged Israel's claim to be Yahweh's chosen people and suggested Yahweh was weaker than their gods.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does being mocked for our faith compound suffering?
2. What responsibility do God's people have for His reputation among watching unbelievers?

Interlinear Text

תְּשִׁימֵנוּ	חַ רְפָה	לְשֹׂכְנֵינוּ	לְעֵג	וְלִקְלָס
Thou makest	us a reproach	to our neighbours	a scorn	and a derision
H7760	H2781	H7934	H3933	H7047

לְסָבִיבוֹתֵינוּ:

to them that are round about

H5439

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 79:4 (Parallel theme): We are become a reproach to our neighbours, a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

Psalms 80:6 (Parallel theme): Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves.