

Psalms 44:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My confusion is continually before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me,

Analysis

The personal toll of public shame: 'My confusion is continually before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me.' The Hebrew *kelimmah* (confusion, dishonor) suggests overwhelming embarrassment. The shame 'covers' the face like a garment, inescapable and constant. This is not momentary embarrassment but pervasive humiliation.

Historical Context

In shame-honor cultures like ancient Israel, public disgrace affected one's entire identity and standing in community. The covering of the face suggests inability to look others in the eye.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does persistent shame differ from guilt, and how does each require different healing?
2. What is the relationship between national suffering and personal shame?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	הַ יּוֹם	כְּלָמָתִי	נִגְדָּי	וּבִשְׁתִּי	פָּנַי
H3605	is continually	My confusion	H5048	before me and the shame	of my face
	H3117	H3639		H1322	H6440
כָּסַתְנִי:					
hath covered					
H3680					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 69:7 (Parallel theme): Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face.