

Psalms 44:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.

Analysis

The devastating conclusion: 'Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.' Suffering comes not despite faithfulness but because of it--'for thy sake.' They suffer precisely for maintaining covenant loyalty. Paul quotes this verse in Romans 8:36 to describe the experience of all who follow Christ.

Historical Context

This verse transforms the theological problem: suffering is not evidence of unfaithfulness but of faithfulness to a God whose enemies are powerful and hostile. It anticipates martyrdom theology in Judaism and Christianity.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does suffering 'for God's sake' transform its meaning?
2. What comfort comes from knowing persecution results from faithfulness rather than failure?

Interlinear Text

פִּי	עַ לִּיב	הֵב גָּנוּ	כָּל	הִי וּם	נָ חֵשׁ בָּנוּ
H3588	H5921	Yea for thy sake are we killed	H3605	all the day	long we are counted
		H2026		H3117	H2803
כָּצֵ' אֵן	טִבְחָהּ:				
as sheep	for the slaughter				
H6629	H2878				

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:36 (Parallel theme): As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Isaiah 53:7 (Parallel theme): He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Psalms 44:11 (Parallel theme): Thou hast given us like sheep appointed for meat; and hast scattered us among the heathen.

1 Corinthians 4:9 (Parallel theme): For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.

John 15:21 (Parallel theme): But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.

1 Kings 19:10 (Parallel theme): And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.