

Psalms 44:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.

Analysis

The psalmist explicitly rejects reliance on human weaponry: 'I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.' This confession, surprising from warriors, acknowledges that military equipment is merely instrumental. Without God's empowerment, the finest weapons are useless; with it, even the weakest prevail.

Historical Context

This verse echoes David's confrontation with Goliath, where he explicitly rejected Saul's armor and declared, 'The LORD saveth not with sword and spear' (1 Samuel 17:47). Trust in weapons versus trust in God is a persistent biblical theme.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What are the 'bows and swords' we might be tempted to trust instead of God?

2. How does acknowledging that human resources 'shall not save' free us from misplaced confidence?

Interlinear Text

ל א בְּקַשְׁתִּי לְאַכְּלִי אֶבְּטֶחָנָה לְאַמְּרָבִי
H3588 H3808 in my bow For I will not trust neither shall my sword H3808
H7198 H982 H2719

תָּשִׁיבָנִי

save
H3467

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 1:7 (Salvation): But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen.

Psalms 20:7 (Faith): Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

1 Samuel 17:47 (Salvation): And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

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