

Psalms 49:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.

Analysis

The universal reality: 'Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever...they call their lands after their own names.' The wealthy imagine perpetuating their legacy through real estate and naming. Yet this very effort reveals awareness of mortality--why name land after yourself except to be remembered after death?

Historical Context

Ancient kings built monuments, named cities, and established dynasties to achieve immortality through memory. The psalm exposes this as futile self-deception that ignores actual mortality.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What are modern equivalents of 'calling lands after our own names'?
2. How does the drive for legacy reveal our awareness of mortality?

Interlinear Text

קִרְבּוֹ ׀	בֵּית יִמּוֹן	לְעוֹלָם ׀	מִשְׁכָּנָתָם		
Their inward	thought is that their houses	shall continue for ever	and their dwelling		
H7130	H1004	H5769	H4908		
דָּרֹר	דָּרֹר	קָרָא ׀	בְּשִׁמוֹתָם ׀	עַל יְ	אֲדָמוֹת:
generations	generations	they call	after their own names	H5921	their lands
H1755	H1755	H7121	H8034		H127

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 4:17 (Parallel theme): And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.

Psalms 5:9 (Parallel theme): For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

Psalms 64:6 (Parallel theme): They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward thought of every one of them, and the heart, is deep.

Psalms 10:6 (Parallel theme): He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.

Ezekiel 38:10 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought:

2 Samuel 18:18 (Parallel theme): Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.