

Psalms 49:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;

Analysis

The practical application: 'Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased.' The wealthy person's prosperity should not produce envy or fear. Their riches cannot accomplish what truly matters; therefore, their apparent advantage is ultimately meaningless.

Historical Context

Ancient wisdom often addressed the temptation to envy the prosperous wicked. This psalm provides the theological framework for resisting that envy by revealing wealth's ultimate impotence.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Why does others' wealth sometimes produce fear or envy in us?
2. How does understanding wealth's limitations free us from inappropriate reactions to others' prosperity?

Interlinear Text

אַל	תִּירָא	כִּי	יַעֲשֶׂר	אֶיֶשׁ	כִּי	רָבָה
H408	Be not thou afraid	H3588	is made rich	when one	H3588	is increased
	H3372		H6238	H376		H7235
כְּבֹד	בֵּיתוֹ:					
when the glory	of his house					
H3519	H1004					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 37:7 (Parallel theme): Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Revelation 21:24 (Glory): And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

Revelation 21:26 (Glory): And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.