

Psalm 51:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

Analysis

The specific plea: 'Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God.' David explicitly names his sin--Uriah's murder. 'Bloodguiltiness' (damim, bloods) emphasizes violence and guilt. Only God can deliver from such guilt. The promised response: 'my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.'

Historical Context

Uriah's death by David's arrangement (2 Samuel 11:14-17) was murder, requiring blood-atonement. David has no sacrifice sufficient; only divine mercy can cleanse blood-guilt.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. Why does David specifically name 'bloodguiltiness' rather than speaking generally?
2. How does deliverance from guilt lead to singing of God's righteousness?

Interlinear Text

בְּאֵלֶּנֶבֶת	מִמְּדֹם יִסְפֹּר	אֱלֹהִים	תִּשְׁוֹשַׁת
Deliver	me from bloodguiltiness	O God	O God
H5337	H1818	H430	H430
			H8668
לְשׁוֹנָה	אֶלְעָתָתֶךָ		
shall sing aloud	and my tongue of thy righteousness		
H7442	H3956	H6666	

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 12:9 (Parallel theme): Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

Psalms 35:28 (Righteousness): And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long.

Psalms 26:9 (Sin): Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

Romans 10:3 (Righteousness): For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Hosea 4:2 (Blood): By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.