

Psalm 51:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Analysis

The prayer for Zion: 'Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.' David's sin affected the whole community; his restoration should bless all Jerusalem. The king's moral health impacts the nation's wellbeing. Restored David prays for restored Zion.

Historical Context

This verse may be a later addition during exile, applying David's psalm to the nation's need for rebuilding. Or it may be David's original prayer that his sin not harm the city.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does personal sin affect community health?
2. Why does David's prayer move from individual restoration to national blessing?

Interlinear Text

חֹם וָת ת בְּנֵה צִיּוֹן אֶת בְּרִצּוֹנֶךָ הַיְתָיְה
Do good in thy good pleasure H853 unto Zion build thou the walls
H3190 H7522 H6726 H1129 H2346

רוֹשֵׁלֶם:
of Jerusalem
H3389

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 102:16 (Parallel theme): When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

Ephesians 1:5 (Good): Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Luke 12:32 (Good): Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Philippians 2:13 (Good): For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Psalms 25:22 (Parallel theme): Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

2 Thessalonians 1:11 (Good): Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: