

Psalms 52:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou lovest evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah.

Analysis

The perverse values: 'Thou lovest evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness.' The comparison is not between evil and good alone but reveals active preference--'loving' evil, 'choosing' lies. This is not accidental sin but chosen orientation, character rather than incident.

Historical Context

Doeg's betrayal wasn't a momentary lapse but revealed his character. He actively chose to report information that would harm David and the priests, preferring Saul's favor over truth.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to 'love' evil rather than just commit it occasionally?

2. How can we discern when lying has become a preferred pattern?

Interlinear Text

אַה־בָּתְּ	בָּעַ	מֵט וּב	שׁ קָרָא	מִדְּבַר	צִדִּיק
Thou lovest	evil	more than good	and lying	rather than to speak	righteousness
H157	H7451	H2896	H8267	H1696	H6664

סֵלָה:

Selah

H5542

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 22:15 (Love): For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

2 Timothy 3:4 (Love): Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Jeremiah 9:8 (Parallel theme): Their tongue is as an arrow shot out; it speaketh deceit: one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait.

Romans 1:25 (Parallel theme): Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

John 8:44 (Evil): Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Micah 3:2 (Love): Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;

