

Psalm 55:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof:
mischief also and sorrow are in the midst of it.

Analysis

The personification of violence and strife as sentries on city walls inverts the image of watchmen who protect. When wickedness becomes institutionalized in leadership, society itself becomes the enemy of righteousness. This prophetically warns of apostate Jerusalem and ultimately anticipates Babylon the Great in Revelation 18.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern cities had watchmen on walls day and night (Isaiah 21:11-12). David describes Jerusalem's guardians as the very sources of wickedness, indicating corruption at the highest levels of government.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How should Christians respond when governing authorities become agents of injustice?
 2. What is the relationship between personal godliness and societal transformation?

Interlinear Text

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