

Psalms 55:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him:

Analysis

David's pain at betrayal by an intimate companion prophetically foreshadows Christ's betrayal by Judas (John 13:18). The Hebrew 'alluph' (close friend/guide) intensifies the treachery. Reformed theology sees this as typological—David's suffering prefiguring Christ's, demonstrating that God's Messiah would experience the fullness of human grief including betrayal.

Historical Context

This likely refers to Ahithophel, David's trusted counselor who joined Absalom's rebellion (2 Samuel 15:12). Ahithophel's subsequent suicide (2 Samuel 17:23) parallels Judas's fate, strengthening the typological connection.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's experience of betrayal minister to you in your own experiences of treachery?
2. What does God's sovereignty over even Judas's betrayal reveal about His control of evil?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	לֹא	אֹיֵב	יִקְרֶה נִי	וְאֶשָּׂא
H3588	H3808	For it was not an enemy	that reproached	me then I could have borne
		H341	H2778	H5375
לֹא	מִשָּׂנְאֵי	עָלַי	הִגְדִּיל	
H3808	it neither was it he that hated	H5921	me that did magnify	
	H8130		H1431	
	וְאֶסָּתֵר	מִמֶּנּוּ:		
	himself against me then I would have hid	H4480		
	H5641			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 41:9 (Parallel theme): Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

John 13:18 (Parallel theme): I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

Psalms 35:26 (Parallel theme): Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at mine hurt: let them be clothed with shame and dishonour that magnify themselves against me.