

Psalm 59:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips: for who, say they, doth hear?

Analysis

The enemies' verbal assaults ('belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips') reveal that slander wounds like weapons. The Hebrew 'naba' (belch/pour forth) suggests uncontrolled verbal violence. Their rhetorical question 'who doth hear?' indicates practical atheism—assuming no accountability. This anticipates James's teaching on the tongue's deadly power (James 3:5-8).

Historical Context

Slander was a primary weapon in ancient Near Eastern politics and warfare. Saul's defamation of David (implied in the narrative) turned public opinion and justified persecution, showing how words can be as deadly as swords.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does verbal assault function as spiritual warfare?
2. What does the wicked's assumption that 'none hears' reveal about the importance of God's omniscience?

Interlinear Text

הִנֵּה הֵן	H2009	בְּפִיה מֵבָבָות	בְּפִיה מֵבָבָות	בְּפִיה מֵבָבָות	בְּפִיה מֵבָבָות	בְּפִיה מֵבָבָות
		Behold they belch out	with their mouth	swords	are in their lips	
	H5042		H6310	H2719		H8193
מִפְרָעָה	H3588	שְׁמַעַ	H4310	for who say they doth hear	H8085	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 57:4 (Word): My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

Psalms 10:11 (Parallel theme): He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see it.

Proverbs 15:2 (Parallel theme): The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

Psalms 73:11 (Parallel theme): And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?

Proverbs 12:18 (Word): There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.