

Psalm 59:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision.

Analysis

God's laughter at the wicked demonstrates divine transcendence over human schemes. The Hebrew 'sachaq' (laugh/mock/scorn) appears in Psalm 2:4 describing God's response to nations' rebellion. 'Thou shalt have all the heathen in derision' reveals that from God's eternal perspective, human opposition is absurd, not threatening—a truth that emboldens believers facing persecution.

Historical Context

This parallels Psalm 2's depiction of God's response to nations' conspiracy against His anointed. David understood that as God's chosen king, opposition to him was ultimately rebellion against God Himself, warranting divine derision.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's transcendent perspective on opposition comfort you in trials?
2. What does divine 'laughter' at wickedness reveal about the futility of opposing God?

Interlinear Text

לְכָל תַּלְעַג לְמַזְמָן תְּשַׂמֵּחַ

H859

But thou O LORD

H3068

תְּשַׂמֵּחַ

shalt laugh

H7832

H0

לְכָל תַּלְעַג לְמַזְמָן תְּשַׂמֵּחַ

in derision

H3605

H3932

: וְאַתָּה יְהוָה

at them thou shalt have all the heathen

H1471

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 2:4 (References Lord): He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

Psalms 37:13 (References Lord): The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.

Proverbs 1:26 (Parallel theme): I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

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