

Psalm 6:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

Analysis

David's physical weakness becomes the basis for his plea for mercy. The Hebrew 'amal' (weak) suggests withering or languishing, while 'bahal' (vexed) means terrified or dismayed. The mention of 'bones' represents his entire being - physical and emotional anguish. This teaches that believers can honestly bring their frailty before God as a reason for His compassion, not stoic denial. God's mercy is directed precisely toward the weak (2 Corinthians 12:9). The prayer for healing acknowledges God as the ultimate physician of body and soul.

Historical Context

Ancient Israelites understood physical illness as often connected to spiritual condition, though not in simplistic one-to-one correlation. David's illness could have been punishment for sin, enemy attack, or simply the frailty of creation under the curse. His appeal to God for healing shows faith that Yahweh controls both spiritual and physical realms.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Do you bring your physical weaknesses to God or only your spiritual struggles?
2. How does your weakness create opportunity for God's power to be displayed?

Interlinear Text

גַּם־יְהִי־הָרְפָא־בַּנִּי אֶמְלָל־לִכְבָּד־בַּנִּי
Have mercy O LORD H3588 for I am weak H589 heal O LORD H3588
H2603 H3068 H536 H7495 H3068

נְבָלָל וְעַצְמִים
are vexed me for my bones
H926 H6106

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 6:1 (References Lord): Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

Psalms 31:10 (Parallel theme): For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

Psalms 30:2 (References Lord): O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

Jeremiah 17:14 (References Lord): Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.

Deuteronomy 32:39 (Parallel theme): See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

Psalms 51:8 (Parallel theme): Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Psalms 32:3 (Parallel theme): When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

Psalms 38:3 (Parallel theme): There is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.

Psalms 38:7 (Parallel theme): For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease: and there is no soundness in my flesh.

Genesis 20:17 (Parallel theme): So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.