

Psalms 63:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

Analysis

The pronouncement that those seeking David's soul 'shall go into the lower parts of the earth' indicates Sheol—not merely death but judgment. This judicial declaration reflects David's confidence that God will vindicate by judging his persecutors. The certainty ('shall go') demonstrates faith in divine justice, not personal revenge.

Historical Context

Absalom and his conspirators did indeed die violently (2 Samuel 18:14-15), fulfilling this prophecy. The 'lower parts of the earth' refers to Sheol, the realm of the dead, indicating both physical death and divine judgment.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does confidence in God's ultimate justice affect your response to current persecution?

2. What is the difference between personal vengeance and trusting God's judicial vindication?

Interlinear Text

לְשׂוּאָהּ	יִבְקֹשׁוּ	נַפְשִׁי	וְאֵל	בְּתִתִּי וְתִ
<small>H1992</small>	<small>H1245</small>	<small>H5315</small>	<small>H935</small>	<small>H8482</small>
to destroy	But those that seek	my soul	it shall go	into the lower parts
<small>H7722</small>				

הָאָרֶץ:
of the earth
H776

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 55:15 (Parallel theme): Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them.

Psalms 9:17 (Parallel theme): The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

Psalms 40:14 (Parallel theme): Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil.

1 Samuel 25:29 (Parallel theme): Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

Isaiah 14:15 (Parallel theme): Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Isaiah 14:9 (Parallel theme): Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

Isaiah 14:19 (Parallel theme): But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

Psalms 35:4 (Parallel theme): Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.

Psalms 38:12 (Parallel theme): They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

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.