

Psalm 69:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.

Analysis

Enemies 'more than the hairs of mine head' outnumber and overwhelm. They 'hate me without a cause'—unjust persecution, quoted about Christ in John 15:25. Demanding restoration of what wasn't stolen adds injustice to persecution. This describes Satan's accusations against believers and Christ's bearing sins He didn't commit (2 Corinthians 5:21). The innocent sufferer theme runs from Job through Christ to persecuted believers (2 Timothy 3:12).

Historical Context

David faced numerous enemies throughout his life—Saul's pursuit, Absalom's rebellion, surrounding nations' hostility. Yet his experience pointed beyond itself to the Messiah's greater innocent suffering.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you respond to unjust accusations or persecution for righteousness' sake?
2. What comfort comes from knowing Christ was hated 'without cause' and bore sins He didn't commit?
3. How can experiencing undeserved suffering make you more like Christ and deepen compassion for others?

Interlinear Text

וְהַלְאֵת מִשְׁעָר וְתַּבְּבֵה
are more than the hairs of mine head
H7231 H8185 H7218 H8130 H2600

עָצָם וְאַיִבְּרָהָר שְׁמִיתָנִי
are mighty they that would destroy me being mine enemies wrongfully
H6105 H6789 H341 H8267 H834

לֹא תַּבְּנֵנָה אֲזִישָׁבְנִי
that which I took not away then I restored
H3808 H1497 H227 H7725

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 35:19 (Parallel theme): Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: neither let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause.

John 15:25 (Parallel theme): But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

Psalms 40:12 (Parallel theme): For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (Parallel theme): For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

1 Peter 3:18 (Parallel theme): For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

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