

Psalms 73:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.

Analysis

The wicked are 'not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.' They seem exempt from normal human suffering—no financial stress, health problems, or relational conflicts. This exemption offends the righteous who do suffer despite faithfulness. Yet immunity from earthly troubles may indicate immunity from divine discipline—God corrects His children (Hebrews 12:6) but leaves the reprobate to their pleasures until judgment. Ease may signal abandonment, not favor.

Historical Context

Job's friends wrongly assumed suffering indicated sin and prosperity indicated righteousness. The psalmist faces the opposite problem: the wicked's prosperity despite sin. Both extremes require eternal perspective to understand God's justice.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How can you view trials as evidence of God's fatherly discipline rather than abandonment?
2. What dangers come from a life free of 'plague' or trouble if it means no divine correction?
3. How does understanding that God disciplines those He loves change your view of suffering?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	אֲדָמָה	וְעַם	אֲיִן מוֹ	אֲנִי וְשׁ	בְּעֵמָל ל
like	other men	like	H369	as other men	They are not in trouble
H5973	H120			H582	H5999

וְלֹא	יִגָּעוּ:
	neither are they plagued
	H5060

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 73:12 (Parallel theme): Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

Job 21:9 (Parallel theme): Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them.

Revelation 3:19 (Parallel theme): As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.