

Psalms 73:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.

Analysis

Setting their mouth 'against the heavens' means blaspheming God directly. Their tongue 'walketh through the earth' suggests pervasive influence—their evil speech spreads everywhere. This describes comprehensive rebellion: vertical (against God) and horizontal (corrupting society). Their words violate both tables of the law. Yet God's truth will ultimately silence all blasphemy (Revelation 21:8), and every tongue will confess Christ's lordship (Philippians 2:11).

Historical Context

Totalitarian regimes throughout history exemplify this pattern: official atheism or idolatry (mouths against heaven) combined with propaganda corrupting entire societies (tongues walking through earth).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do you respond to cultural blasphemy and mockery of God without becoming bitter or vengeful?

2. What does it mean that wicked speech 'walks through the earth'—how does evil influence spread?
3. How can Christians speak truth in societies where mouths are set against heaven?

Interlinear Text

שֵׁת וְ	בְּשָׁמַיִם	פִּיהֶם	וּלְשׁוֹנָם	תִּהְלֵךְ
They set	against the heavens	their mouth	and their tongue	walketh
H8371	H8064	H6310	H3956	H1980
בְּאֶרֶץ:				
through the earth				
H776				

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 13:6 (Parallel theme): And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

James 3:6 (Parallel theme): And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.