

Psalms 78:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,

Analysis

They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths—the phrase *lō'-zārû mi-ta'ăwātām* (not estranged from their lust) means they never turned away from their craving; satisfaction only fueled appetite. The horrific timing—'while their meat was yet in their mouths'—shows judgment overtaking indulgence mid-bite.

This instant transition from gratification to judgment parallels the rich man who feasted sumptuously while Lazarus starved (Luke 16:19-25). Death came 'in the midst of feasting' like Belshazzar's banquet interrupted by handwriting on the wall (Daniel 5:5). James 5:5 warns the wealthy: 'You have lived on the earth in luxury... You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.' Gratification without godliness courts disaster.

Historical Context

Numbers 11:33 records: 'While the meat was still between their teeth, before it was consumed, the anger of the LORD was kindled.' The plague struck during the feast, turning celebration into catastrophe. This sudden reversal demonstrates how quickly blessing becomes curse when pursued idolatrously.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What appetite has enslaved you so completely that 'satisfaction' only increases craving?
2. How does the instantaneous nature of this judgment challenge modern Christianity's 'health and wealth' gospel?

Interlinear Text

לֹא

H3808

וְיָרָוּ

H2114

They were not estranged

מִתְאַוֶּתֶם

from their lust

H8378

עַד

H5750

אֲכָלָם

But while their meat

H400

בְּפִיהֶם:

was yet in their mouths

H6310