

Psalm 9:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them:
he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.

Analysis

God makes 'inquisition for blood' - He investigates and avenges injustice and murder. The Hebrew 'darash damim' (seeks blood) emphasizes God's commitment to justice for the oppressed. He 'remembereth them' and 'forgetteth not the cry of the humble.' This assures victims that God sees, records, and will address all injustice. The 'humble' (Hebrew 'anaw' - afflicted, meek) have God's special attention. This anticipates Christ's identification with the suffering and His promise of ultimate justice.

Historical Context

Blood-guilt required avenging in Israel's legal system (Numbers 35). God's making inquisition for blood promised justice when human systems failed. The humble were often overlooked by earthly courts but never by God. This principle runs through Scripture - God as defender of the oppressed and powerless.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God remembers injustice affect how you respond to suffering?
2. Are you humble enough to cry to God, or do you try to solve everything yourself?

Interlinear Text

רִא	דִּבֶּר	אָמַר	אָמַר	לֹא
H3588	When he maketh inquisition	for blood	H853	he remembereth
	H1875	H1818		H3808
שָׁמַד	לֹא	לֹא	לֹא	
them he forgetteth	not the cry	of the humble	H6035	
H7911	H6818			

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 3:7 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

Psalms 34:6 (Parallel theme): This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Revelation 16:6 (Blood): For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

Genesis 9:5 (Blood): And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

Isaiah 26:21 (Blood): For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Psalms 22:24 (Parallel theme): For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

Judges 10:16 (Parallel theme): And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

Psalms 10:14 (Parallel theme): Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.

Psalms 10:17 (Parallel theme): LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

Psalms 102:17 (Parallel theme): He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.