

Psalm 9:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

Analysis

This verse illustrates the principle of divine retribution—the wicked fall into their own traps. The Hebrew concept of 'mishpat' (judgment) here reveals God's providential ordering where sin contains its own punishment. This anticipates Paul's teaching that God 'gives them over' to their sin's consequences (Romans 1:24-28).

Historical Context

Reflects ancient Near Eastern warfare where armies would dig pits and set snares for enemies, only to sometimes fall victim to their own devices.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How have you seen destructive patterns in your own life catch up with you?

2. What does God's justice teach us about the nature of sin?

Interlinear Text

טַבּוּ	גַּם	בָּשָׁחַת	נָשָׁעַת	בָּרְשָׁת	זֶה
are sunk down	The heathen	in the pit	that they made	in the net	which
H2883	H1471	H7845	H6213	H7568	H2098

כִּלְמָם:	נִלְכַּדְתָּה	בְּמִנְחָה
they hid	taken	is their own foot
H2934	H3920	H7272

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 57:6 (Parallel theme): They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves. Selah.

Psalms 35:8 (Parallel theme): Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself: into that very destruction let him fall.

Proverbs 5:22 (Parallel theme): His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

Proverbs 22:8 (Parallel theme): He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.

Psalms 94:23 (Parallel theme): And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the LORD our God shall cut them off.