

there on the path and the ass stood by it and the lion stood by it, and they ~~stood~~ stood guarding the carcass but not injuring it. Someone came by and saw this queer sight--here was a body lying there and a lion standing by it, standing near the body, protecting the body from anything else that might hurt it, but not injuring it himself. A man in California tells me that one time he was camping in the mountains there and he had his little konkey tied about twenty feet from where he was lying asleep and he said a mountain lion killed the ~~konkey~~ donkey. He just killed it for meanness. He didn't touch it; he didn't try to eat it or anything; he did it for meanness. In the morning there was the donkey dead and the marks of the jaws of the lion that had killed it but the lion didn't touch the man at all. Perhaps the miracle in this case is not that the lion didn't touch the man but that the lion didn't touch the donkey. ~~It is~~ We cannot tell what is the nature of this particular lion might be, what his taste might be in food. At any rate the ~~donkey~~ lion didn't touch either one. He killed the man for meanness and then he protected the body so that nothing should injure it. When the prophet heard of it, there immediately he said, "That's the man of God who was disobedient to the word of the Lord; therefore the Lord has delivered to the lion." That is exactly the fate that you will strike ~~it~~ if you turn away from God's will and start doing what is wrong. You will find that when the results of your errors catches up with you, the very people who tried to lure you away will be criticizing you for it and saying that you should have known better. So the old prophet came and said to his sons, "Saddle me the ass." And they saddled "him" it says. The "him" is italicized. If a person is unfamiliar with Bible usage, of course, he may think that this is calling the old prophet an ass, but it isn't. It is strange to have a custom in our Bible of typography that is not found in any other book at all to indicate those matters which are inserted and not in the original by putting them in italics. But ~~xxx~~ in anything else italics means to emphasize. They simply saddled the ass for the father, and he went and found the carcass and the lion, and the lion hadn't eaten the carcass, nor had the ass. That was ~~probably~~ probably the strange part of it. That he hadn't injured the ass.