

# 1 Samuel 2:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

## Analysis

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Hannah's prophetic vision turns to God's protective care for His own. 'Keeping the feet' of saints implies guiding their path and preventing stumbling. The Hebrew chasidim (saints, faithful ones) describes those in covenant relationship with God. In contrast, the wicked shall be 'silent in darkness' - silenced in judgment and condemned to the shadowy realm of death. The crucial statement 'by strength shall no man prevail' returns to Hannah's core theme: human power cannot ultimately succeed against divine purposes. Victory belongs to God alone.

## Historical Context

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The term chasidim later becomes a significant designation for the pious in Israel, eventually giving name to the Hasidic movement. In context, it describes those who, like Hannah, maintain covenant faithfulness despite difficult circumstances.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does God 'keep your feet' in your daily walk?

2. What areas of life are you trying to prevail in by your own strength?

## Interlinear Text

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רַגְלֵי י	חֲסִידָיו	וְשָׁמַר	וְרָשָׁעִים	בַּחֹשֶׁךְ	יָד מוֹ
the feet	of his saints	He will keep	and the wicked	in darkness	shall be silent
H7272	H2623	H8104	H7563	H2822	H1826
כִּי	לֹא	בְכֹחַ	יִגְבֹּר	אִישׁ:	
H3588	H3808	for by strength	prevail	shall no man	
		H3581	H1396	H376	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 121:3** (Parallel theme): He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

**1 Peter 1:5** (Parallel theme): Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Psalms 37:28** (Holy): For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

**Psalms 94:18** (Parallel theme): When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.

**Psalms 97:10** (Holy): Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

**Job 5:24** (Parallel theme): And thou shalt know that thy tabernacle shall be in peace; and thou shalt visit thy habitation, and shalt not sin.

**Zechariah 4:6** (Parallel theme): Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Psalms 121:8** (Parallel theme): The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

**Proverbs 16:9** (Parallel theme): A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

**Deuteronomy 33:3** (Holy): Yea, he loved the people; all his saints are in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; every one shall receive of thy words.

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