

# Proverbs 24:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lay not wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; spoil not his resting place:

## Analysis

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'Lay not wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous'—this commands (addressed ironically to the wicked) not to plot against God's people. Don't ambush or 'spoil his resting place' (destroy his home/peace). Verses 15-16 warn that attacking the righteous will fail and rebound. The righteous may fall seven times (repeatedly) but will 'rise up again'—God preserves His people. Meanwhile, the wicked 'shall fall into mischief'—their own plots will destroy them. This comforts persecuted believers: enemies' schemes will fail; God will vindicate and restore His own. This doesn't promise immunity from suffering but assurance of ultimate deliverance. The righteous's final rising is certain; the wicked's final falling is inevitable.

## Historical Context

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Israel's enemies repeatedly plotted their destruction, yet God preserved a remnant. Individuals like Job and Joseph fell repeatedly but rose again through God's providence.

## 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. When facing opposition, do you trust God's promise that the righteous will ultimately rise?
2. How does this assurance of final vindication provide strength for present trials?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל	תֵּאָרֵב	כִּשְׁע	לְנִי ה	צַדִּיק	אֶל
H408	Lay not wait	O wicked	man against the dwelling	of the righteous	H408
	H693	H7563	H5116	H6662	
תֶּשֶׁבֶת	רִבְצֹוֹ:				
spoil	not his resting place				
H7703	H7258				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 32:18** (Parallel theme): And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

**Acts 9:24** (Parallel theme): But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

**Psalms 140:5** (Parallel theme): The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins for me. Selah.

**Jeremiah 11:19** (Parallel theme): But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered.