

Proverbs 3:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.

Analysis

Be not afraid of sudden fear or desolation that comes upon the wicked. The command not to fear sudden calamity reflects trust in divine providence protecting the righteous. While the wicked face unexpected destruction, believers rest in God's sovereign care. This doesn't promise exemption from trials but freedom from paralyzing fear of disaster. Such confidence flows from covenant relationship, not personal merit.

Historical Context

Reflects the security promised under Davidic covenant - enemies would threaten but God would protect His people. Written during Israel's most secure period, yet principles apply to believers in any era facing threats.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What 'sudden fears' currently disturb your peace that trust in God should alleviate?

2. How does confidence in God's providence change your response to unexpected difficulties?

Interlinear Text

אַל	בְּאַרְבָּא	תִּירְאָ	פִּתְאָם	מִפְּנֵיד	וְמִשְׁאָת	רְשָׁעָם
H408	Be not afraid	fear	of sudden	neither of the desolation	of the wicked	
H3372		H6343	H6597	H7722		H7563

כִּי	תִּרְאָ:
H3588	when it cometh

H935

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 112:7 (Evil): He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.

1 Peter 3:14 (Parallel theme): But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

Psalms 91:5 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

Psalms 73:19 (Parallel theme): How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.

Mark 4:40 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Matthew 24:6 (Parallel theme): And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

John 14:1 (Parallel theme): Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

Luke 21:9 (Parallel theme): But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by.

Proverbs 1:27 (Parallel theme): When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

Matthew 24:15 (Parallel theme): When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

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