

# Proverbs 6:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

## Analysis

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How long will you sleep, O sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep? The rhetorical questions mock the sluggard's excessive sleep and aversion to work. Sleep here represents not legitimate rest but slothful avoidance of responsibility. The questions imply indefinite postponement - there's always tomorrow, never today. This exposes procrastination's deceptive pattern - delayed obedience eventually becomes disobedience.

## Historical Context

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Agricultural society required seasonal diligence - missed planting or harvest meant annual poverty. The sluggard's sleep when work was urgent resulted in predictable want.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What responsibilities are you 'sleeping' through that require urgent attention?
2. How does habitual procrastination reveal heart issues beyond mere time management?

## Interlinear Text

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עַד	מַתַּי	לֹא	תִשָּׁכַח	תַּי	וְתִקַּח
H5704	H4970	O sluggard	How long wilt thou sleep	H4970	when wilt thou arise
		H6102	H7901		H6965

  

מִשְׁנֵתְךָ:
out of thy sleep
H8142

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ephesians 5:14** (Resurrection): Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

**Psalms 94:8** (Parallel theme): Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?

**Jeremiah 4:14** (Parallel theme): O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?