

# Psalm 10:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.

## Analysis

The double lion imagery intensifies the predatory picture—the wicked lies in wait like a lion in its thicket, catching the poor in a net. This combines hunting metaphors to show calculated evil. The 'helpless' (Hebrew 'ani') are those economically and socially vulnerable. This anticipates Jesus' special concern for the poor and marginalized throughout His ministry.

## Historical Context

Lions were a real threat in ancient Israel's wilderness areas, making this a powerful metaphor. Nets and snares were common hunting tools repurposed as images of social oppression.

## Related Passages

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

1. How do systems and structures today trap the vulnerable?
2. In what ways are you called to be an advocate for the helpless?

## Interlinear Text

וְאֶרְבָּה	בְּמִשְׁתַּחַת	כִּאֵרִי	הַבָּסֵם	וְאֶרְבָּה	וְאֶרְבָּה
He lieth in wait	secretly	as a lion	in his den	He lieth in wait	he doth catch
H693	H4565	H738	H5520	H693	H2414
וְעַדְיִם	בְּמִשְׁכָּן	וְעַדְיִם	בְּרִשְׁתָוֹן	וְעַדְיִם	בְּרִשְׁתָוֹן
the poor	he doth catch	the poor	when he draweth	him into his net	
H6041	H2414	H6041	H4900	H7568	

## Additional Cross-References

**Psalms 17:12** (Parallel theme): Like as a lion that is greedy of his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.

**Psalms 59:3** (Parallel theme): For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not for my transgression, nor for my sin, O LORD.

**Micah 7:2** (Parallel theme): The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.

**Psalms 35:10** (Parallel theme): All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee, which deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him, yea, the poor and the needy from him that spoileth him?

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org