

Psalm 102:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days:
thy years are throughout all generations.

Analysis

The plea 'take me not away in the midst of my days' expresses urgent desire for life extension, grounded in God's eternity. 'Thy years are throughout all generations' contrasts divine permanence with human transience. This appeal to God's eternal nature as basis for mercy demonstrates mature faith—God's unchanging character guarantees His faithfulness. The Reformed doctrine of God's immutability assures believers that He remains constant despite changing circumstances. Christ's resurrection demonstrates that God's eternal purposes triumph over death.

Historical Context

Ancient Israelites generally viewed long life as a divine blessing and reward for righteousness (Exod 20:12, Ps 91:16). Premature death suggested possible divine judgment, making the psalmist's plea for extended life a request for vindication.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternity comfort you when facing mortality?
2. What legacy do you hope to leave that reflects God's unchanging character?

Interlinear Text

רַאֲמָם אֵלִי אֵלְנִי תַּעֲלִנִי בְּחִצָּאִים יְמִים
I said O my God H408 take me not away in the midst of my days
H559 H410 H5927 H2677 H3117

שְׁנָוֹתִיךְ דָּרוּ יָמִים דָּרוּ יָמִים
are throughout all are throughout all thy years
H1755 H1755 H8141

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 39:13 (Parallel theme): O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

Psalms 102:12 (Parallel theme): But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.

Habakkuk 1:12 (References God): Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

Revelation 1:8 (Parallel theme): I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.