

# Psalm 104:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

## Analysis

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Young lions roar after prey, 'seeking their meat from God.' Even predation is presented as provision from God—lions' hunting is included in divine providence. This isn't cruelty but ecological reality in a fallen world. The lions unknowingly seek food from God, who provides for all creatures. Christ taught that the Father feeds all creatures (Matt 6:26). Post-fall creation includes death and predation, yet God sustains this order until restoration comes. The Reformed understanding of providence includes all natural processes, even uncomfortable ones.

## Historical Context

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Lions inhabited the Middle East in biblical times (though now extinct there). Their nighttime hunting would be heard from settlements, making this a familiar, sometimes fearful sound demonstrating God's provision for wild predators.

## Related Passages

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

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How do you reconcile predation and death in nature with God's goodness as Creator?
2. What does God's provision for even dangerous predators teach about His comprehensive care?

## Interlinear Text

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אָכְלָמָן מֵאָלָמָן שָׁאָג יִמְרָא בְּכַפְּרִים  
The young lions roar after their prey and seek from God their meat  
H3715 H7580 H2964 H1245 H410 H400

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 38:39** (Parallel theme): Wilt thou hunt the prey for the lion? or fill the appetite of the young lions,

**Joel 1:20** (Parallel theme): The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

**Psalms 34:10** (Parallel theme): The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.