

# Psalm 104:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.

## Analysis

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When the sun rises, lions withdraw and 'lay them down in their dens.' Day and night create complementary rhythms for different creatures. Lions' rest during day mirrors humans' rest during night. This orderly succession of activity and rest reflects God's wisdom. Boundaries of day and night govern behavior appropriately. Christ rested (Mark 4:38) and honored Sabbath rhythms while also working on Sabbath to do good (John 5:17). The Reformed tradition values both diligent work and restful worship in proper rhythm.

## Historical Context

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Observing that lions hunt at night and rest during day was empirical knowledge. Attributing this pattern to God's design rather than mere instinct reflected Israel's theological understanding of creation.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How well do you honor God's design for rhythms of work and rest in your life?
2. What does the natural world's respecting of boundaries teach about human obedience to God's commands?

## Interlinear Text

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וְעַזְבָּנָתָם בְּעֵדָתָם  
ariseth      The sun      they gather themselves together      in their dens

H2224      H8121      H622      H413      H4585

וְלֹא־בָּצָר!  
and lay them down

H7257

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 37:8** (Parallel theme): Then the beasts go into dens, and remain in their places.

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