

# Psalms 109:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let it be unto him as the garment which covereth him, and for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually.

## Analysis

**Let it be unto him as the garment which covereth him** (תֵּהַי־לּוּ כְּבָד־עַטָּה, tehi-lo kheveged ya'teh)—the verb **עַטָּה** (atah, "wrap, cover") with **כְּבָד** (beged, "garment") completes the clothing metaphor. **And for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually** (מַעֲלֵה מִזְמִיחַת תָּמִיד יָחֲגֵרָה, ulmeizach tamid yachgerehah)—(meizach, "belt, girdle") worn **תָּמִיד** (tamid, "continually, perpetually"). The verb **חָגַר** (chagar, "gird") speaks of binding tight.

The curse becomes permanent fixture—not something he can remove. Job 8:13-14 uses similar imagery: the hypocrite's trust is "as a spider's web," fragile and temporary; here cursing binds like leather worn daily. Isaiah 59:17 shows God putting on "garments of vengeance" and "zeal as a cloak"; David prays the enemy wears his own wickedness as inescapable raiment. The girdle/belt held garments together and secured weapons—symbolizing readiness and identity. The enemy's identity is now cursing; he cannot ungird himself from judgment.

## Historical Context

Girdles were essential in ancient dress—securing robes for work, holding weapons for battle, containing purses for trade. A girdle worn "continually" became part of one's very person, like a wedding ring or phylactery—a visible sign of commitment and character.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What are you "girded with continually"—what defines your readiness, identity, and daily walk?
2. How does the permanence of this curse (garment and girdle) warn against the lasting consequences of character?
3. What does Ephesians 6:14 mean when it commands us to be "girded about with truth" as opposed to cursing?

## Interlinear Text

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ל	וְ	תָהִי	כִּי	אָתָּה	עַל	לֹמַד	לְמַעַן
H1961	H0	Let it be unto him as the garment	H899	which covereth	H5844	him and for a girdle	H4206
תָמֵן	וְ	יְמַגְּדָה					
continually	wherewith he is girded	H2296					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 109:29** (Parallel theme): Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.