

# Psalm 11:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

## Analysis

The imagery of wicked archers drawing bows in darkness portrays secret assault on the righteous. The Hebrew 'yashar leb' (upright in heart) contrasts with those who walk in darkness. This anticipates Paul's spiritual warfare teaching about flaming arrows of the evil one (Ephesians 6:16). The darkness suggests both secrecy and moral blindness—the wicked cannot perceive light (John 3:19-20).

## Historical Context

Reflects the experience of David fleeing from Saul, when he faced assassination attempts from hidden enemies. Bows and arrows were standard weapons of ancient warfare.

## Related Passages

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

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

## Study Questions

1. What unseen spiritual attacks threaten your integrity?
2. How do you maintain uprightness when facing hidden opposition?

## Interlinear Text

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חָצָק	כֹּתֶב	וְ	בְּרִשָׁעִים	הַבְּהִכָּה	כִּי
H3261	H2009		For lo the wicked	bend	
			H7563	H1869	
				H7198	
				H3559	
					H2671
עַל	לִנְשָׁרִי		בְּמוֹזָעַ	אֶלְעָזָר	לְבָבָךְ
H5921	upon the string		H1119	that they may privily	at the upright
H3499	shoot		H3384	H652	H3477
					H3820

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 37:14** (Evil): The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation.

**Psalms 21:12** (Parallel theme): Therefore shalt thou make them turn their back, when thou shalt make ready thine arrows upon thy strings against the face of them.

**Jeremiah 9:3** (Evil): And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD.