

Psalm 119:126

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void thy law.

Analysis

It is time for thee, LORD, to work (עת לעשׂות ליהוה, et la'asot l'YHWH)—A bold declaration that divine intervention is overdue. The construction can mean 'time for YHWH to act' or 'time to act for YHWH's sake.' Either reading calls for God to vindicate His own name and covenant.

They have made void thy law (הִפְרָא תְּמִימָה, heferu toratekha)—The verb parar means to break, frustrate, nullify. God's torah (instruction/law) is being systematically violated. When lawlessness abounds (Matt 24:12), God's people cry for His intervention. Jesus cleansed the temple with similar outrage (John 2:17).

Historical Context

This verse may reflect periods when Israel's leaders ignored or actively suppressed God's law—during wicked kings' reigns (Manasseh), or when Ezra discovered the law had been forgotten (Neh 8). The Maccabean period also saw systematic attempts to abolish Torah observance.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. In an age when God's law is increasingly 'made void' in society, how should believers cry out for divine intervention?
2. Does this verse justify righteous anger when God's Word is violated and mocked?
3. How do you discern when to patiently endure wickedness versus boldly calling for God to act?

Interlinear Text

תֹּעַתְּךָ:	תְּעַתָּה	וְעַתָּה	לְעַשׂ	וְתַּחֲזִק	לִיהְיוֹת	רֹא	תְּ
thy law	H8451				H3068	for thee LORD	for they have made void
	H6256		H6213				H6565

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 8:8 (Word): How do ye say, We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribes is in vain.

Matthew 15:6 (Word): And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

Habakkuk 1:4 (Word): Therefore the law is slackened, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

Malachi 2:8 (Word): But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.