

Psalm 119:63

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.

Analysis

I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts. The word **companion** (חֲבָר, chaver) implies intimate fellowship and deliberate association, not casual acquaintance. This partnership is defined by shared spiritual commitment: those **that fear thee** (ירא'ך, yere'ekha)—reverent awe of God—and **keep thy precepts** (שְׁמַרְתִּי פְּקֻדִּךְ, shomerei piqqudekha)—obedient practice.

This verse establishes that genuine faith produces spiritual community. We choose companions based on shared ultimate loyalties. Amos asked, 'Can two walk together unless they are agreed?' (Amos 3:3). The New Testament emphasizes believers as koinonia (fellowship) united in Christ. Paul warned against unequal yoking with unbelievers (2 Corinthians 6:14), not from snobbery but recognition that deepest fellowship requires shared foundation—the fear of God and obedience to His Word.

Historical Context

Israel's covenant identity was communal—the assembly (qahal) of God's people set apart from nations. Exile tested this—would scattered Jews maintain distinct identity or assimilate? Those who feared God formed faithful remnants (Malachi 3:16). Early Christians were distinguished by their fellowship (koinonia), sharing meals, possessions, and persecution while maintaining unity across ethnic divides (Acts 2:42-47).

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. Do your closest companions share your fear of God and commitment to His Word, or are relationships built on lesser foundations?
2. How can you cultivate deeper fellowship with those who 'fear God' without becoming isolated or judgmental toward unbelievers?
3. What practical steps might strengthen the spiritual quality of your friendships and church community?

Interlinear Text

רִאֵה וְבָרֵךְ אֲנָשָׁר לְכָל I am a companion	H589	H3605	אֲנָשָׁר לְכָל אֲנָי of all them that fear	H834
H2270				H3372

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 101:6 (Parallel theme): Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

Proverbs 13:20 (Parallel theme): He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Psalms 119:79 (Parallel theme): Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.

1 John 1:3 (Parallel theme): That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Psalms 16:3 (Parallel theme): But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.

Psalms 142:7 (Parallel theme): Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name: the righteous shall compass me about; for thou shalt deal bountifully with me.

Psalms 119:115 (Parallel theme): Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.

1 John 3:14 (Parallel theme): We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.