

Psalms 119:76

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort,
according to thy word unto thy servant.

Analysis

Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort (יְהִי־נָא חֶסֶדְךָ לְנַחֲמֵנִי) —the petition opens with na (please), showing reverent boldness. Chesed (merciful kindness/covenant love) is the theological anchor—God's loyal love that never fails. Nachameni (comfort me) from nacham (to comfort, console) anticipates Isaiah's gospel proclamation: 'Comfort, comfort my people' (Isaiah 40:1).

According to thy word unto thy servant (כְּפִאמְרֶיךָ לְעַבְדְּךָ) grounds the request: God has promised comfort in His imrah (word/utterance). The psalmist prays Scripture back to God—the quintessential model of biblical prayer. He claims covenant status (avdekha, thy servant) to plead covenant promises.

Historical Context

The Kaph (כ) section (vv. 81-88) depicts a sufferer clinging to promises amid persecution. The petition for chesed appears 248 times in the Old Testament, always denoting God's covenant faithfulness. To pray 'according to thy word' reflects confidence that God binds Himself to His promises.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How often do you pray God's own promises back to Him, using Scripture as the basis for your petitions?
2. What specific promises of comfort from God's Word sustain you in seasons of affliction?
3. How does identifying as God's servant change the way you approach Him with your needs?

Interlinear Text

יְהִי	נָא	חַסְדְּךָ	לְבִנְיָמִי נִי
H1961	H4994	H2617	H5162
Let I pray thee thy merciful kindness be for my comfort			
כְּאִמְרָתְךָ	לְעַבְדְּךָ:		
H565	H5650		
according to thy word unto thy servant			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 86:5 (Grace): For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.