

Psalms 119:95

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: but I will consider thy testimonies.

Analysis

The wicked have waited for me to destroy me (לֵי קִוָה רְשָׁעִים לְאַבְדֵנִי) — Kovah (wait, lie in wait) suggests patient, predatory malice. The resha'im (wicked, guilty) plot the psalmist's abad (destruction, ruin). **But I will consider thy testimonies** (עֲדָתֶךָ אֶתְבּוֹנֶנָה) — Calm resolve. Bin (understand, consider, meditate) indicates focused contemplation amid chaos.

This contrasts two "waitings": enemies wait to destroy, the psalmist waits on God by meditating on edot (testimonies, witnesses). David faced such plots (1 Samuel 23:25-26); Jesus endured scribes and Pharisees laying snares (Matthew 22:15). The godly response isn't retaliation but recalibration—refocusing on God's faithfulness when surrounded by hostility. Psalm 56:3 captures this: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

Historical Context

Persecution of the righteous is a biblical constant: Joseph's brothers, David fleeing Saul, Jeremiah in the cistern, Daniel's accusers, early church martyrs. This verse became a liturgy for suffering saints, teaching that meditation on Scripture provides stability when enemies surround.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. When facing opposition or spiritual attack, what typically captures your attention—the threat or God's Word?
2. How can "considering God's testimonies" function as spiritual warfare against fear and discouragement?

Interlinear Text

ל	ו	רָשָׁע	יִמְשֹׁלֵךְ	לֹא־בְּקָרְבָּנִים	עַדְתָּךְ	בְּ
H0	have waited	The wicked	for me to destroy	thy testimonies		
	H6960	H7563	H6	H5713		

אַתְּ בָּנִי:
me but I will consider
H995

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 119:31 (Parallel theme): I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.

Psalms 119:167 (Parallel theme): My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.