

Psalms 130:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

Analysis

The intensity of waiting is illustrated: 'My soul waiteth for the LORD more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.' The comparison 'more than they that watch for the morning' uses night watchmen as metaphor. Guards who watch through night's darkest hours eagerly anticipate dawn - representing both relief from duty and victory over darkness. The psalmist's anticipation of divine deliverance exceeds even this eager expectation. The phrase is repeated for emphasis - 'I say, more than they that watch for the morning' - reinforcing that nothing compares to longing for God's intervention. The imagery suggests present darkness (depths, distress) and future light (deliverance, presence of God). Dawn is certain; watchmen know it will come. Similarly, the psalmist's confidence in God's deliverance is absolute, though timing remains unknown.

Historical Context

Night watches were organized periods when guards remained alert to protect cities or camps (Exodus 14:24; Judges 7:19; 1 Samuel 11:11). The darkness before dawn was considered the most dangerous time. Watchmen's longing for morning would resonate powerfully with ancient audiences familiar with night's vulnerability and dawn's safety.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the metaphor of watchmen waiting for morning illustrate confident, eager expectation?
2. What does the repetition reveal about the intensity of the psalmist's longing for God?
3. How does comparing spiritual waiting to natural certainty (dawn always comes) strengthen faith?
4. In what ways do believers experience spiritual 'darkness' that makes them long for God's 'dawn'?
5. How does this verse balance present difficulty with future certainty?

Interlinear Text

נַפְשִׁי יֵ	לֵאדֹנָי יֵ	שֹׁמְרֵ יָם	לְבֹקֶר:
My soul	waiteth for the Lord	I say more than they that watch	for the morning
H5315	H136	H8104	H1242
	שֹׁמְרֵ יָם	לְבֹקֶר:	
	I say more than they that watch	for the morning	
	H8104	H1242	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 119:147 (Parallel theme): I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.

Psalms 63:6 (Parallel theme): When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

