

Psalms 16:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

Analysis

David blesses God who 'counsels' him, with his heart instructing him 'in the night.' The Hebrew 'ya'ats' (counsel) indicates wise guidance. The kidneys (Hebrew 'kilyot,' often translated 'heart') instructing at night suggests God's intimate, ongoing teaching even in rest. This anticipates the Holy Spirit's role as Counselor (John 14:26) who brings things to remembrance and guides into truth.

Historical Context

Reflects ancient understanding of kidneys as the seat of conscience and emotions, parallel to heart. Night instruction suggests God's word penetrating dreams and meditation.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How actively do you seek God's counsel through Scripture and prayer?
2. Are you attentive to how God instructs you in quiet, reflective moments?

Interlinear Text

אֶבְרַךְ	אֶת	יְהוָה	אֲשֶׁר	יְעֲצֵנִי	אֵרְ
I will bless	H853	the LORD	H834	who hath given me counsel	H637
H1288		H3068		H3289	
לֵיל וְ	יִסֵּר וְנִי	כְּלִיֹּתִי:			
me in the night seasons	also instruct	my reins			
H3915	H3256	H3629			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 50:4 (References Lord): The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

Psalms 73:24 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

Psalms 17:3 (Parallel theme): Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

Psalms 77:6 (Parallel theme): I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

Psalms 42:8 (References Lord): Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

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

Proverbs 8:14 (Parallel theme): Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

Isaiah 48:17 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

Isaiah 26:9 (Parallel theme): With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Psalms 119:55 (References Lord): I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.

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