

Psalm 17:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let my sentence come forth from thy presence; let thine eyes behold the things that are equal.

Analysis

David appeals for vindication from God's presence, knowing only God's eyes see what is upright ('mesharim'—equity/uprightness). This demonstrates confidence in divine omniscience and perfect justice. The Hebrew 'mishpat' (vindication/judgment) acknowledges God as the righteous Judge who sees beyond human appearances (1 Samuel 16:7). This anticipates believers' final vindication at Christ's judgment seat (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Historical Context

Written when David faced false accusations, likely from Saul's court. Ancient Near Eastern legal proceedings often failed to discover truth, but God's judgment was certain.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain integrity when only God sees the full truth?
2. Do you trust God's vindication more than human approval?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| מִלְפָנִים | מִשְׁפָט | אֵצֶן | עַיְלָה | תְּחִזֵּק |
| from thy presence | Let my sentence | come forth | let thine eyes | behold |
| H6440 | H4941 | H3318 | H5869 | H2372 |
| מִשְׁרִים: | | | | |
| the things that are equal | | | | |
| H4339 | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 37:6 (Parallel theme): And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

Jude 1:24 (Parallel theme): Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Psalms 37:33 (Parallel theme): The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

Ezekiel 18:25 (Parallel theme): Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?

Ezekiel 18:29 (Parallel theme): Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

Ezekiel 33:17 (Parallel theme): Yet the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal.

Ezekiel 33:20 (Parallel theme): Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O ye house of Israel, I will judge you every one after his ways.