

Psalms 18:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

Analysis

Yahweh lights David's lamp and illumines his darkness. The Hebrew 'nir' (lamp) symbolizes life and guidance, while 'choshek' (darkness) represents danger and ignorance. This anticipates Jesus as light of the world (John 8:12) and believers as lights (Matthew 5:14). Reformed theology sees illumination as both intellectual (understanding truth) and spiritual (regeneration). God must give light; we cannot generate it.

Historical Context

Lamps were essential in ancient homes for nighttime safety and activity. Spiritual darkness was equally dangerous, requiring divine illumination.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What areas of your life currently feel dark and need God's light?
2. How do you seek divine illumination through Scripture and Spirit?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	אֶתְהַ	תִּאֲרִי	נֵרִי	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵי	יְהִי
H3588	H859	For thou wilt light	my candle	the LORD	my God	will enlighten
		H215	H5216	H3068	H430	H5050
חֹשֶׁךְִי:						
my darkness						
H2822						

Additional Cross-References

Job 29:3 (Light): When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;

2 Samuel 22:29 (Light): For thou art my lamp, O LORD: and the LORD will lighten my darkness.

Isaiah 42:16 (Light): And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

1 Peter 2:9 (Light): But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Matthew 4:16 (Light): The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Psalms 112:4 (Light): Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

Proverbs 20:27 (References Lord): The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

Luke 1:79 (Light): To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Isaiah 62:1 (Parallel theme): For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

Psalms 132:17 (Parallel theme): There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

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