

Psalm 25:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Analysis

The prayer 'O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed' expresses covenant confidence. The fear of being 'ashamed' (Hebrew: bosh) means being put to shame, disappointed, or abandoned. Trusting God's character, the psalmist pleads for vindication. Reformed theology emphasizes that those who genuinely trust God will never ultimately be put to shame (Rom. 10:11). Temporary trials may bring temporary shame, but final vindication awaits all believers. The plea that 'mine enemies triumph not over me' recognizes spiritual warfare requiring divine intervention.

Historical Context

In honor-shame cultures, public disgrace was worse than death. David, anointed yet persecuted, faced constant threats to his reputation and life. This prayer for preservation of honor anticipates Christ, who endured shame to remove our shame (Heb. 12:2).

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does trusting God protect you from ultimate shame despite temporary disgrace?
2. What 'enemies' threaten to triumph over you that only God can defeat?

Interlinear Text

אֱלֹהִים	אֱלֹהִים	בְּ	טָמֵתִי	בְּ	אֶל	אָבֹשָׁה	אָבֹשָׁה	אֶל	בְּ	טָמֵתִי	בְּ	אֱלֹהִים	אֱלֹהִים	
O my God	H430	H0	I trust	H982	H408	in thee let me not be ashamed	H954	H408	H5970	triumph	H0			
אַיִלְבָּם	אַיִלְבָּם	לִ												
let not mine enemies	H341	H0												

Additional Cross-References

Romans 10:11 (Faith): For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Psalms 41:11 (Parallel theme): By this I know that thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.

Psalms 71:1 (Faith): In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

Psalms 22:5 (Faith): They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.

Romans 5:5 (References God): And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Isaiah 37:35 (Parallel theme): For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

Psalms 142:6 (Parallel theme): Attend unto my cry; for I am brought very low: deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I.

Psalms 31:1 (Faith): In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.

Psalms 34:8 (Faith): O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Isaiah 26:3 (Faith): Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.