

# Psalm 25:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee.

## Analysis

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The plea 'O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee' combines petition and profession. 'Keep my soul' asks for preservation; 'deliver me' asks for rescue. The reason given—'for I put my trust in thee'—is not meritorious but evidential: trust in God is both the means and evidence of salvation. Reformed theology sees perseverance: God keeps those who truly trust Him. Our trust doesn't earn preservation; rather, genuine trust evidences God's preserving work.

## Historical Context

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Throughout redemptive history, God preserved those who trusted Him—Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, the exiles. This track record encouraged believers to trust God's future faithfulness based on His past performance.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does 'putting your trust in God' protect you from ultimate shame?
2. What does it mean to ask God to 'keep your soul'?

## Interlinear Text

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שְׁמַחַת הָאָב וְשִׁאָלָה  
keep my soul and deliver me let me not be ashamed

O keep my soul and deliver me let me not be ashamed  
H8104 H5315 H408 H954 H3588

בָּרוּךְ יְהִי  
for I put my trust

H2620 H0

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 121:7** (Parallel theme): The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

**Acts 7:59** (Parallel theme): And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

**Psalms 17:8** (Parallel theme): Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,

**Psalms 86:2** (Faith): Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

**Luke 23:46** (Parallel theme): And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.