

Psalm 25:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

Analysis

The prayer 'Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee' expresses confidence that godly character provides protection. 'Integrity' (tom) means completeness/wholeness; 'uprightness' (yosher) means straightness/moral correctness. These are both divine gifts and human responsibilities. Reformed theology emphasizes that sanctification protects believers from many dangers—not mechanically, but providentially. God honors and preserves those whose character reflects His holiness. Waiting on God demonstrates faith that His timing is perfect.

Historical Context

Proverbs repeatedly teaches that wisdom and righteousness lead to life, while folly and wickedness lead to death. David experienced this—his integrity preserved him when deception would have brought ruin (1 Sam. 24-26).

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does integrity provide protection in ways dishonesty cannot?
2. What does 'waiting on God' require of you practically?

Interlinear Text

תְּמִימָה	וְעַמְצָמָה	וְעַמְצָמָה	וְעַמְצָמָה	וְעַמְצָמָה
Let integrity	and uprightness	preserve	H3588	me for I wait
H8537	H3476	H5341		H6960

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 41:12 (Parallel theme): And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.

Proverbs 11:3 (Parallel theme): The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Psalms 26:1 (Parallel theme): Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide.

Psalms 26:11 (Parallel theme): But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

Acts 24:16 (Parallel theme): And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

Psalms 7:8 (Parallel theme): The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me.

Proverbs 20:7 (Parallel theme): The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

1 Samuel 26:23 (Parallel theme): The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the LORD delivered thee into my hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD'S anointed.

Daniel 6:22 (Parallel theme): My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.