

Psalms 27:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

Analysis

The plea 'Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty' asks for protection from unjust accusations and violence. False testimony threatened reputation and life. 'Breathe out cruelty' depicts vicious hostility. Reformed theology sees Christ here—falsely accused before Sanhedrin and Pilate (Matt. 26:59-60). God vindicated Christ through resurrection, assuring that He will vindicate all who suffer false accusation.

Historical Context

False witnesses destroyed Job's reputation, caused Naboth's death (1 Kings 21), and condemned Jesus. Israel's law prohibited false testimony (Ex. 20:16), but enforcement failed. God sees truth even when courts fail.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do you entrust yourself to God when falsely accused?
2. What does Christ's vindication teach about God's justice for the falsely accused?

Interlinear Text

אֶל H408	תִּתְּנֵנִי H5414	בְּנֵי פֶשַׁע H5315	צָרֵי H6862	כִּי H3588	קָמוּ H6965	בְּיָדֵי H0
	Deliver	me not over unto the will	of mine enemies		are risen up	
עֲדֵי H5707	קֵרֶשׁ H8267	וְיָפֶה H3307	וְיָפֶה H3307	חֲמָסִים H2555		
witnesses	for false	against me and such as breathe out		cruelty		

Additional Cross-References

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

Psalms 31:8 (Parallel theme): And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.

Psalms 35:11 (Resurrection): False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not.

Acts 9:1 (Parallel theme): And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

Psalms 35:25 (Parallel theme): Let them not say in their hearts, Ah, so would we have it: let them not say, We have swallowed him up.

Psalms 38:16 (Parallel theme): For I said, Hear me, lest otherwise they should rejoice over me: when my foot slippeth, they magnify themselves against me.

Psalms 140:8 (Parallel theme): Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; lest they exalt themselves. Selah.

Psalms 41:2 (Parallel theme): The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

Exodus 20:16 (Witness): Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

1 Samuel 26:19 (Parallel theme): Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods.