

Psalm 28:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts.

Analysis

The prayer 'Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity' asks to be spared the wicked's fate. The description 'which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts' depicts hypocritical evil. Reformed theology sees total depravity—human hearts naturally deceive and scheme. The prayer for separation from such people reflects the doctrine of election: God distinguishes between wheat and tares, sheep and goats. Believers are preserved from sharing the wicked's judgment.

Historical Context

Israel experienced leaders who spoke peace while plotting evil (Jer. 6:14). Such hypocrisy characterized false prophets who promised prosperity while nation rushed toward judgment. Discernment required divine revelation.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do you discern between those who 'speak peace' genuinely versus hypocritically?
2. What does being 'drawn away' versus 'preserved' teach about God's electing grace?

Interlinear Text

פְּעֵלִים	וְעַם	רְשָׁעִים	עַם	תִּמְשִׁיכְנִי	אֶל
H5973	H5973	with the wicked	H5973	Draw me not away	H408
H7563	H7563		H7563		H4900
אֶל	אֶל	אֶל	אֶל	אֶל	אֶל
but mischief					
H7451	H7451	H7451	H7451	H7451	H7451
to their neighbours					
H7965	H7965	H7965	H7965	H7965	H7965
peace	peace	peace	peace	peace	peace
H1696	H1696	H1696	H1696	H1696	H1696
which speak					
H205	H205	H205	H205	H205	H205
of iniquity					
בְּלִבְבָּם:	בְּלִבְבָּם:	בְּלִבְבָּם:	בְּלִבְבָּם:	בְּלִבְבָּם:	בְּלִבְבָּם:
is in their hearts					
H3824	H3824	H3824	H3824	H3824	H3824

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 55:21 (Parallel theme): The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

Psalms 12:2 (Parallel theme): They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

Psalms 26:9 (Sin): Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

Micah 3:5 (Peace): Thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.

Psalms 62:4 (Parallel theme): They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.

Matthew 25:41 (Evil): Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Psalms 36:4 (Evil): He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.

Psalms 7:14 (Sin): Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.

Psalms 10:14 (Parallel theme): Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.

Psalms 10:7 (Sin): His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity.