

# Psalms 36:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down,  
and shall not be able to rise.

## Analysis

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The prophetic perfect tense 'are fallen... are cast down' describes future judgment with past tense certainty—what God decreed is accomplished regardless of timing. 'There' may indicate a specific place of judgment or simply 'behold!' The finality 'shall not be able to rise' emphasizes irreversible defeat. This conclusion answers the psalm's opening portrait of seemingly successful wickedness (vv. 1-4) with assurance that appearances deceive; God's judgment will ultimately vindicate righteousness and destroy evil, encouraging patient endurance.

## Historical Context

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The certain downfall of evildoers was a consistent theme in wisdom literature and prophetic oracles. Israel's faith required trusting this eventual outcome despite present circumstances suggesting otherwise.

## Related Passages

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does confidence in God's ultimate justice help you endure present injustice?
2. What difference does it make that the wicked's fall is both certain and final?

## Interlinear Text

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דָּשָׁלָהּ H8033	נָפַל fallen H5307	פְּעֹלֵי There are the workers H6466	אֲשֶׁר of iniquity H205	נִתְּנָה they are cast down H1760	לָלֵךְ H3808
	וְלֹא and shall not be able H3201	יָקִיָּם to rise H6965			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 1:5** (Sin): Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.