

Psalm 37:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.

Analysis

God 'knoweth' (Hebrew 'yada') the days of the upright—intimate, experiential knowledge of each day's challenges and duration. This isn't mere awareness but covenant care, numbering and superintending every day. The promise that 'their inheritance shall be for ever' contrasts the wicked's temporal gains (v. 2) with eternal security. The inheritance isn't merely future but begins now and continues eternally, transforming how believers view daily hardships—each difficult day is known and numbered by God.

Historical Context

Inheritance in Israel passed from generation to generation but could be lost through judgment or poverty. The righteous' eternal inheritance transcends these earthly limitations, secured by divine promise.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does knowing God intimately know your days change how you face today's challenges?
2. What does eternal inheritance mean for how you steward temporal possessions?

Interlinear Text

לעוֹלָם נִסְלָתָם תְּמִימָם יְמֵינוּ יְהֹוָה יְדַעַת

תְּהִירָה:

H1961

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 1:6 (References Lord): For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Psalms 103:17 (References Lord): But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

Romans 6:23 (References Lord): For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2 Timothy 2:19 (References Lord): Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Psalms 49:5 (Parallel theme): Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?

Psalms 31:7 (Parallel theme): I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;

Psalms 73:24 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

1 John 2:25 (Parallel theme): And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.