

# Psalms 62:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall shall ye be, and as a tottering fence.

## Analysis

The question to enemies 'How long will ye imagine mischief' indicates weariness with persistent opposition. The imagery of enemies as attackers assaulting a 'bowing wall' and 'tottering fence' suggests perceived vulnerability. Yet this may be ironic—they see David as weak, but he stands secure in God. Their destruction of one 'already slain' indicates futile assault on one whom God guards.

## Historical Context

The metaphor of a leaning wall captures David's apparent political vulnerability during various persecutions. Enemies saw opportunity in his weakened state, not recognizing God's preservation.

## Related Passages

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

1. How does faith enable standing firm when enemies perceive you as vulnerable?

2. What does persistent opposition despite repeated divine deliverance reveal about the nature of hardened resistance?

## Interlinear Text

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עַד אֵת הַנָּה תְּהֻנָּתָה וְעַל אִישׁ

H5704 H575 How long will ye imagine mischief H2050 H5921 against a man H376

תְּבָאָתָה וְעַל יְרֵךְ מִלְּכָא כָּל יְרֵךְ תְּבָאָתָה וְעַל רְאֵתָה

ye shall be slain H3605 wall all of you as a bowing H7023 H5186 fence H1447

בְּדָחִין:

shall ye be and as a tottering H1760

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 140:2** (Parallel theme): Which imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war.

**Psalms 82:2** (Parallel theme): How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.

**Psalms 21:11** (Parallel theme): For they intended evil against thee: they imagined a mischievous device, which they are not able to perform.

**Psalms 38:12** (Parallel theme): They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.

**Proverbs 1:22** (Parallel theme): How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

**Jeremiah 4:14** (Parallel theme): O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?

**Psalms 4:2** (Parallel theme): O ye sons of men, how long will ye turn my glory into shame? how long will ye love vanity, and seek after leasing? Selah.

**Exodus 16:28** (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?

**Hosea 7:15** (Parallel theme): Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me.

**Proverbs 6:9** (Parallel theme): How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

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