

Psalm 71:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,

Analysis

Enemies 'speak against me' and 'lay wait for my soul,' revealing both verbal attacks and active plots. 'Take counsel together' shows organized conspiracy, not random opposition. The escalation from speech to ambush to coordinated plotting depicts intensifying persecution. Yet bringing this to God rather than responding in kind demonstrates faith. Believers face real enemies with real plans, but God's counsel prevails over all human scheming (Psalm 33:10-11).

Historical Context

David faced literal conspiracies—Saul's pursuit, Absalom's rebellion, court intrigues. These real threats provided context for trusting God's protection against coordinated opposition.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when opposition moves from criticism to active plotting against you?
2. What does it mean to bring enemies' conspiracies to God rather than trying to outmaneuver them yourself?
3. How does knowing God's purposes ultimately prevail provide courage when facing organized opposition?

Interlinear Text

בְּ	אָמַר	בְּ	אֹיְבִים	לִ	בְּ	וְשָׁמָר
H3588	speak	For mine enemies	H0	against me and they that lay wait		
H559		H341		H8104		
בְּ	רָאשָׁה	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ
for my soul	take counsel	together				
H5315	H3289	H3162				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 83:3 (Parallel theme): They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.

Psalms 56:6 (Parallel theme): They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.