

# Psalms 74:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Forget not the voice of thine enemies: the tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually.

## Analysis

**Forget not the voice of thine enemies** (אֶל-תִשְׁכַח קֹל צְרָרִיךְ, al-tishkach kol tzorerekha)—Shakach means forget, ignore; kol is voice, sound; tzorerekha means your enemies, adversaries. **The tumult of those that rise up against thee increaseth continually** (שָׁאוֹן קָמֵךְ עַלְהָ תָמִיד, she'on kamekha oleh tamid)—She'on is uproar, tumult, din; oleh means rising, ascending; tamid means continually, perpetually.

Psalm 74 is an Asaph psalm lamenting the temple's destruction (likely by Babylon in 586 BC). The enemies mocked God's name (v. 10), desecrated his sanctuary (vv. 3-7), and their arrogance grows daily. "Forget not" is urgent petition: "Don't ignore their blasphemy!" The escalating tumult demands divine intervention. This psalm teaches that God's people may appeal to his honor when their own cause seems lost.

## Historical Context

The Babylonian destruction of Solomon's temple was Israel's greatest catastrophe. The sanctuary where God's glory dwelt was burned, the ark lost, priesthood disrupted, and people exiled. Psalm 74 captures this trauma, crying out for God to remember his covenant and vindicate his name.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

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

## Study Questions

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1. When injustice or blasphemy seems to escalate unchecked, how do you maintain faith in God's justice?
2. How does appealing to God's honor (not just our comfort) transform our prayers for intervention?
3. What does this verse teach about God's patience with blasphemers and his eventual vindication?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל שְׁפָחָת תְּשַׁכַּח וְלֹא יְבָרֶךְ יְרַבְּךָ שְׁאָלָה יְבָרֶךָ  
H408 Forget H7911 not the voice H6963 of thine enemies H6887 the tumult H7588 of those that rise up H6965

עַל נִזְמָנִים: continually  
against thee increaseth H5927 H8548

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 37:29** (Parallel theme): Because thy rage against me, and thy tumult, is come up into mine ears, therefore will I put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

**Psalms 65:7** (Parallel theme): Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.