

Psalms 91:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Analysis

This promise of angelic protection reveals God's providential care through supernatural agents. The phrase 'give charge' (tsavah) indicates authoritative command, while 'keep thee' (shamar) means to guard, watch, or preserve. The scope 'in all thy ways' encompasses the believer's entire path, not just hazardous moments. Satan misapplied this verse by omitting 'in thy ways' when tempting Christ (Matthew 4:6), demonstrating that divine protection accompanies obedient walking, not presumptuous testing. Hebrews 1:14 affirms angels as 'ministering spirits' for believers.

Historical Context

This psalm of protection was traditionally associated with Moses, addressing Israel's confidence in God's shelter during wilderness wanderings and warfare. Ancient Israel understood angels as God's messengers and agents, frequently mentioned in deliverance narratives (2 Kings 6:17; Daniel 6:22).

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does awareness of angelic protection shape your confidence in God's care without leading to presumption?
2. What does 'in thy ways' teach about the relationship between obedience and divine protection?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	מִן	לְאַנְשֵׁי	יְצִוָּה	לְךָ	לְשָׁמְרְךָ	בְּכָל
H3588	For he shall give his angels		charge	H0	over thee to keep	H3605
	H4397		H6680		H8104	
וּבְכָל־						
thee in all thy ways						
H1870						

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 34:7 (Parallel theme): The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Hebrews 1:14 (Parallel theme): Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Proverbs 3:6 (Parallel theme): In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Matthew 4:6 (Parallel theme): And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Psalms 71:3 (Parallel theme): Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.

Isaiah 31:1 (Parallel theme): Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org