

# Psalms 94:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?

## Analysis

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**Who will rise up for me against the evildoers?** (חַיְקָם לִי עַמְּמָרָעִים) —The lonely cry of the righteous surrounded by wickedness. Qum (rise up/stand) seeks an ally willing to confront evil. The rhetorical question expects silence—no human helper appears adequate. **Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?** (חַיְתַּעֲצֶב לִי עַמְּפָעָלִי אָלָי) repeats the desperation.

Yet verse 17 answers: the LORD is the defender. This pattern saturates Psalms—human isolation drives the psalmist to divine sufficiency. Christ experienced ultimate abandonment (Mark 15:34) so believers never face evil alone. Romans 8:31—'If God be for us, who can be against us?'—echoes this confidence.

## Historical Context

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The language suggests judicial imagery—the psalmist stands accused or oppressed with no advocate. In ancient courts, the accused needed someone to plead their case. This foreshadows Christ as our advocate (1 John 2:1) and the Spirit as our helper (John 14:16).

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. When have you felt isolated in opposing evil—and where was God in that loneliness?
2. Who around you needs an ally to 'rise up' on their behalf against injustice?
3. How does Christ's advocacy for you embolden you to stand against wickedness despite opposition?

## Interlinear Text

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מִי  
H4310 Who will rise up H6965  
עַמְּלֵי  
H0 H5973 for me against the evildoers  
מִרְעָעִים  
H7489

מִי  
H4310  
אֲלֵי  
H205  
עַלְיָה  
H6466 for me against the workers of iniquity  
בְּתִימָאָה  
H3320

## Additional Cross-References

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**Judges 5:23** (Parallel theme): Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

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