

# Psalms 94:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?

## Analysis

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The question 'LORD, how long' (ad-matay Yahweh) expresses the tension between faith in God's justice and the present reality of evil's apparent success. This cry appears throughout Scripture (Psalms 6:3, 13:1-2, Habakkuk 1:2, Revelation 6:10), validating honest lament before God. 'Shall the wicked triumph' (ya'alzu—exult, rejoice) captures the painful reality that evil sometimes appears victorious. The repeated questioning intensifies the plea. This verse teaches that expressing anguish to God about injustice is legitimate prayer, not faithlessness.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history included repeated periods when righteous suffered under wicked rulers, creating existential tension between covenant promises and lived reality.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

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