

Question: What is the meaning of the word Madhali in Psalm 21:11?

Answer: Let us carefully examine the passage:

Though they intended evil against You, though they devised a plot, they are not able to perform it. (Psalm 21:11, NKJV)

The Swahili term Madhali is rare in Scripture, appearing only once in the entire Bible. It carries the same meaning as the English word “Though” or “Although.” In other words, the verse conveys that even though enemies may scheme against God’s anointed one, their plans will inevitably fail.

Rephrased, the verse can be understood as:

Although they plotted evil against You and devised wicked schemes, they could not accomplish them.

Theological Insight

Psalm 21 is a royal psalm celebrating God’s deliverance of the king, which prophetically points to Christ, the ultimate Anointed One. In this verse, David acknowledges that human opposition cannot overthrow God’s purposes. This truth echoes throughout Scripture:

Proverbs 21:30 (ESV): No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel can avail against the LORD.

Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV): No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD.

Romans 8:31 (NIV): If God is for us, who can be against us?

The phrase highlights God’s sovereignty and protective power. Even when adversaries meticulously plan harm, those plans are subject to divine authority. Evil may be intended, but God turns it for the good of His people (Genesis 50:20).

A Call to Personal Reflection

This passage also points us to a deeper question: Are you standing in Christ, the One who secures victory over every scheme of the enemy? Without Christ, humanity is vulnerable to the destructive power of sin and Satan. But in Him, we are more than conquerors (Romans 8:37).

For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not delay.

(Hebrews 10:37, NKJV)

The return of Christ is imminent. Now is the time to trust Him fully and walk in the assurance of His salvation.

Maranatha — The Lord is coming soon!

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