

# Isaiah 50:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering.

## Analysis

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The statement 'I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering' depicts God's power over creation, turning light to darkness as judgment (Exodus 10:21-23). This imagery anticipates crucifixion darkness (Matthew 27:45) and cosmic signs preceding Christ's return (Matthew 24:29). God who controls creation's most powerful forces is certainly able to save His people.

## Historical Context

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Historical judgments included literal darkening (Egyptian plague, Joel's locusts). Apocalyptic literature uses cosmic disorder to depict God's terrifying yet hopeful intervention in human affairs, dissolving normal order to establish new creation.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's power over cosmic forces (darkness, heavens) humble your fear of earthly troubles?
2. What does creation's subjection to God teach about His authority over the circumstances troubling you?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶלְבִּי יֵשׁ	שָׁמַיִם יִם	קֹדֶר וּת	וְשֵׁ קִ	אֶשׁ יִם	כְּסוּתָם:
I clothe	the heavens	with blackness	sackcloth	and I make	their covering
H3847	H8064	H6940	H8242	H7760	H3682

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 6:12** (Parallel theme): And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

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