

Job 10:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Are thy days as the days of man? are thy years as man's days,

Analysis

Job continues questioning divine temporality: 'Are thy days as the days of man? are thy years as man's days?' If God's lifespan were human, His urgency to afflict Job might make sense—limited time demands hasty action. But God is eternal, not rushed. Why then the apparent hurry to punish? The questions emphasize divine eternity, making God's treatment of Job seem even more inexplicable.

The rhetorical questions expect negative answers—God's days aren't like man's days; He is eternal (Psalm 90:2, 4). This should mean patience, not haste; mercy, not severity. Yet Job experiences relentless pressure. He cannot reconcile God's eternal nature with the apparent urgency of divine prosecution. If God has all eternity, why not grant Job respite?

Peter addresses this paradox: 'The Lord is not slack concerning his promise... is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish' (2 Peter 3:9). God's eternal perspective means patient endurance with sinners. But to sufferers like Job, God's patience in withholding relief seems like impatience in afflicting. The same attribute (eternity) produces opposite pastoral applications depending on circumstance.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern gods were often portrayed as having limited lifespans or being subject to time. Biblical theology's eternal God stood in stark contrast. Job

affirms this doctrine while wrestling with its implications—if God is eternal, why the rush to judgment before Job can understand and respond?

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternality shape His patience with sinners and His perfect timing in our trials?
2. What does Job's question about divine temporality teach about our tendency to project human limitations onto God?
3. In what ways does understanding God's timelessness help us endure prolonged suffering?

Interlinear Text

כַּ יְמֵי	אֶן וְשׁ	כַּ יְמֵי	אִם	שׁ נוֹתֶיךָ יָרֵךְ	כַּ יְמֵי	גְּבֹרָה:
Are thy days	of man	Are thy days	H518	are thy years	Are thy days	as man's
H3117	H582	H3117		H8141	H3117	H1397

Additional Cross-References

2 Peter 3:8 (Parallel theme): But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.