

Job 11:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt be secure, because there is hope; yea, thou shalt dig about thee, and thou shalt take thy rest in safety.

Analysis

The promise continues: 'thou shalt be secure' (וְתִחְתַּחַת, u-vatachta), 'there is hope' (תִּקְוָה, tiqvah), you'll 'dig about' (חָפַרְתָּ, chafarta—search, explore), and 'rest in safety' (לְבָטֵחַ, shakhavta labetach). The verbs describe active confidence—searching territory, resting securely. The Hebrew word for hope (tiqvah) appears throughout Scripture as confident expectation based on God's faithfulness (Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 5:5). Zophar's theology of hope is orthodox—true security comes from God. His application is flawed—he promises these blessings mechanically follow repentance. Biblical hope is certain regarding God's ultimate purposes but not presumptuous about specific timing or means.

Historical Context

Security and rest were precious in the ancient world of constant threat. Zophar promises the shalom that was Israel's covenant blessing—comprehensive peace and flourishing under divine protection.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do we maintain confident hope while acknowledging that God's timing differs from ours?
2. What does genuine security rest upon in a fallen world where suffering continues?

Interlinear Text

בְּטַחַת And thou shalt be secure	כִּי H3588	וְשָׁ because there is	תַּחֲזִיק hope	תַּחֲזִיק yea thou shalt dig
H982		H3426	H8615	H2658
לְבָטַח in safety	תְּשַׁפֵּב about thee and thou shalt take thy rest	H983	H7901	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 4:8 (Parallel theme): I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

Psalms 3:5 (Parallel theme): I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

Psalms 43:5 (Hope): Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

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