

Job 11:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Should not the multitude of words be answered? and should a man full of talk be justified?

Analysis

Zophar attacks Job's defense: 'Should not the multitude of words be answered? and should a man full of talk be justified?' This rhetorical question dismisses Job's lament as mere verbosity. Zophar represents those who mistake words for wisdom and confuse suffering with sin.

Historical Context

Ancient wisdom valued brevity, but Zophar uses this principle to silence legitimate complaint. His implication that 'multitude of words' equals guilt reveals prejudice against honest lament.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. When have you dismissed someone's pain because they spoke too much?
2. How do you discern between authentic lament and empty complaint?

Interlinear Text

הָרַב	לֹא	יַעֲנֶה	וְאִם	אִישׁ
Should not the multitude	of words	be answered		and should a man
H7230	H1697	H3808	H518	H376
שִׁפְתָּי מְלֵא:	וְיִצְדָּק:			
full of talk	be justified			
H8193	H6663			

Additional Cross-References

Job 18:2 (Word): How long will it be ere ye make an end of words? mark, and afterwards we will speak.

Proverbs 10:19 (Word): In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.