

# Job 12:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

## Analysis

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Job affirms 'In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind' - acknowledging God's absolute sovereignty over life and death. Even in complaint, Job maintains orthodox theology. This combination of lament and orthodoxy models faith that questions circumstances without denying truth.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern creation accounts attributed life to various deities, but Job affirms monotheistic sovereignty. The parallel 'soul/breath' structure emphasizes totality of divine control.

## Related Passages

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

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How do you maintain theological orthodoxy while questioning God's providence?
2. What's the difference between questioning God's ways and denying His sovereignty?

## Interlinear Text

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|         |                |             |       |                       |                |       |
|---------|----------------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------|-------|
| אֵשׁ ר  | בְּ יָדוֹ      | נַפְשׁ      | כָּל  | דָּ י                 | וְ רֵיחַ       | כָּל  |
| H834    | In whose hand  | is the soul | H3605 | of every living thing | and the breath | H3605 |
|         | H3027          | H5315       |       | H2416                 | H7307          |       |
| בָּשָׂר | אִישׁ:         |             |       |                       |                |       |
| H1320   | of all mankind |             |       |                       |                |       |
|         | H376           |             |       |                       |                |       |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 17:28** (Parallel theme): For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

**Job 33:4** (Parallel theme): The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

**Numbers 16:22** (Parallel theme): And they fell upon their faces, and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?

**Acts 17:25** (Parallel theme): Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

**Job 27:3** (Parallel theme): All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;

**Psalms 104:29** (Parallel theme): Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.

**Daniel 5:23** (Parallel theme): But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

**Genesis 2:7** (Parallel theme): And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

**John 3:6** (Parallel theme): That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

**Genesis 6:17** (Parallel theme): And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

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