

Job 13:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lo, mine eye hath seen all this, mine ear hath heard and understood it.

Analysis

'Lo, mine eye hath seen all this, mine ear hath heard and understood it.' Job claims firsthand empirical knowledge: his 'eye' (עַיִן, ayin) has 'seen' (רָאָה, ra'atah) and his 'ear' (אָזן, ozen) has 'heard' (שָׁמָע, shamah) and 'understood' (בִּינָה, binah). He isn't speculating but reporting observations confirmed by experience. This appeals to both sense perception and rational reflection. Job's epistemology balances observation, reason, and revelation. The friends operate solely from tradition; Job engages reality. The Reformed tradition values both general revelation (observed in creation) and special revelation (Scripture), refusing to divorce theology from lived experience.

Historical Context

Wisdom literature valued both received tradition and personal observation. Job here asserts he possesses both, challenging the friends' monopoly on wisdom based solely on tradition.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do we integrate personal experience with revealed truth without elevating experience above Scripture?
2. What role does observation of reality play in testing theological formulations?

Interlinear Text

וְהָ	כָּל	רָאָה	עֵינִי	שָׁמַעַה	אֶזְנִי	וַתֵּבֶן
H2005	H3605	hath seen	Lo mine eye	hath heard	all this mine ear	and understood
		H7200	H5869	H8085	H241	H995

לָהּ:

H0

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