

Job 13:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He will surely reprove you, if ye do secretly accept persons.

Analysis

'He will surely reprove you, if ye do secretly accept persons.' Job warns his friends that God will 'reprove' (יְכִיחַד, yokiach—correct, rebuke, prove) them for secret partiality (בָּסָרֶת, baseter). The shock: they think they're defending God, but God will rebuke them (confirmed in Job 42:7-8). This exposes the danger of assuming our defense of orthodoxy automatically pleases God. God values justice and truth over protective lies. The friends' public orthodoxy conceals injustice—they show partiality by assuming prosperity proves righteousness. God's final verdict will vindicate Job and condemn the comforters. This warns against confusing theological correctness with righteousness.

Historical Context

The shock of God ultimately condemning the orthodox friends and vindicating the complaining Job would subvert ancient wisdom's assumptions. Job foreshadows this stunning reversal.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How can defending orthodox theology actually place us in opposition to God?
2. What is the relationship between theological correctness and justice/compassion?

Interlinear Text

וְיֹאמֶר יְהוָה	וְיֹאמֶר יְהוָה	אָתָּה כִּי	אָמַר	בְּעִמָּךְ תַּרְצַח	פָּנִים יְמִינֶךָ
He will surely	He will surely	H853	H518	you if ye do secretly	persons

H3198 H3198 H853 H518 H5643 H6440

תַּשְׁאֵל:
accept
H5375

Additional Cross-References

James 2:9 (Parallel theme): But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

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