

Job 13:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Only do not two things unto me: then will I not hide myself from thee.

Analysis

Job makes two requests of God: 'Only do not two things unto me: then will I not hide myself from thee.' Despite his boldness, Job recognizes the need for specific conditions to stand before God. This shows both audacity (making demands of God) and humility (acknowledging limitations before divine majesty). The dialogue between confidence and fear characterizes authentic faith—approaching God boldly yet reverently.

Historical Context

Theophanies in Scripture typically terrified those who experienced them (Isaiah 6, Ezekiel 1). Job's concern about conditions for meeting God reflects biblical realism about human inability to endure unmediated divine presence.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How do we balance bold confidence in approaching God with reverent fear of His majesty?

2. What 'conditions' do we sometimes demand before we'll fully engage with God?
3. How does Christ's mediation make it possible to approach God without the fear Job expresses?

Interlinear Text

אֲנִי	שְׁנֵי	אֵל	תַּעֲשֶׂה	עִמָּדִי	אֶזְכָּר	מִפְּנֵי	אֶל
H389	not two	H408	Only do	H5978	H227	myself from thee	H3808
	H8147		H6213			H6440	

אֶסְתֵּר:

things unto me then will I not hide

H5641

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org