

Job 14:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And surely the mountain falling cometh to nought, and the rock is removed out of his place.

Analysis

Yet Job returns to present reality—everything decays: 'And surely the mountain falling cometh to nought, and the rock is removed out of his place.' Even the most permanent-seeming things—mountains and rocks—erode and crumble. If nature's strongest elements fail, how much more do humans? This recognizes entropy and decay as universal post-Fall realities. Only divine intervention can reverse this trajectory toward dissolution.

Historical Context

Mountains symbolized permanence in ancient Near Eastern thought (Psalm 125:1-2). Yet Job observes that even these erode over time—an observation consistent with modern geology's understanding of erosion, weathering, and tectonic change.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing creation's decay due to sin's curse shape our hope for new creation?
2. What does the temporary nature of seemingly permanent things teach about where we place our security?
3. How does Christ's promise to make all things new address the universal decay Job observes?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵלֹהִים	הָר	נוֹפֵל	יָבֹל	וְצֹר	יֵעָרָק
And surely	the mountain	falling	cometh to nought	and the rock	is removed
H199	H2022	H5307	H5034	H6697	H6275
מִמְקוֹמוֹ:					
out of his place					
H4725					

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 6:14 (Parallel theme): And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Job 18:4 (Parallel theme): He teareth himself in his anger: shall the earth be forsaken for thee? and shall the rock be removed out of his place?

Jeremiah 4:24 (Parallel theme): I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.