Job 14:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.

Analysis

Job's famous hope: 'For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again' contrasts vegetative regeneration with human mortality. Trees can revive; humans die permanently. Yet this observation prepares for Job's greater hope in resurrection (14:14).

Historical Context

Ancient agricultural societies observed seasonal death and renewal in plant life. Job uses this natural observation to highlight humanity's different fate - or does he?

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

- 1. What hope do natural cycles of death and renewal suggest about human mortality?
- 2. How does this plant metaphor anticipate resurrection hope?

Interlinear Text



Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 27:6 (Parallel theme): He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.

Isaiah 11:1 (Parallel theme): And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Job 14:14 (Parallel theme): If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

Job 19:10 (Hope): He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.

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