

Job 15:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

With us are both the grayheaded and very aged men, much elder than thy father.

Analysis

Eliphaz appeals to age and experience: 'With us are both the grayheaded and very aged men, much elder than thy father.' He claims superior wisdom based on generational authority—elders wiser than even Job's father support his theology. This argument from tradition assumes age guarantees truth. Reformed theology respects tradition but recognizes it must be tested by Scripture. Eliphaz's error warns against elevating human authority above divine revelation.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern cultures deeply respected elders as wisdom-bearers. Councils of elders held judicial and religious authority. Eliphaz leverages this cultural value, but God later rebukes him (42:7), showing age doesn't guarantee theological correctness.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do we balance respect for tradition and elders with recognition that they can err?
2. When has appeal to authority prevented you from examining whether teachings align with Scripture?
3. What distinguishes legitimate respect for church tradition from enslaving submission to human tradition?

Interlinear Text

גַּם	שְׁנֵי בָ	גַּם	יֵשׁ יֵשׁ	רַב נֹ	כַּבֵּי יֵר
H1571	With us are both the grayheaded	H1571	and very aged	H0	men much
	H7867		H3453		H3524
יֵמָּה יְיָ	יָמִים:				
than thy father	elder				
H1	H3117				

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