

Job 15:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That thou turnest thy spirit against God, and lettest such words go out of thy mouth?

Analysis

Eliphaz accuses Job of speaking against God: 'That thou turnest thy spirit against God, and lettest such words go out of thy mouth?' He interprets Job's questions and complaints as opposition to God. The accusation of 'turning spirit against' God suggests apostasy or rebellion. Eliphaz can't conceive that honest questions arise from deep faith seeking understanding. This error—conflating doubt with unbelief—continues to damage pastoral care.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern religion typically required unquestioning submission to divine will. Israel's prophetic tradition allowed for challenging questions (Abraham, Moses, Jeremiah), but conventional wisdom like Eliphaz's resisted such boldness.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do we distinguish honest questioning from rebellious spirit?

2. When have your questions been mistaken for lack of faith?
3. What biblical examples show God welcoming difficult questions from His people?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	תָשׁ יָב	אֶל	אֵל	רוּחַ בְּ	יֵהָצֵ אֶתְ	מִפִּי יָב
H3588	That thou turnest	H413	against God	thy spirit	go out	of thy mouth
	H7725		H410	H7307	H3318	H6310
מְלִין:						
and lettest such words						
H4405						

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 34:13 (Parallel theme): Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Job 12:6 (References God): The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth abundantly.

Job 10:3 (Parallel theme): Is it good unto thee that thou shouldest oppress, that thou shouldest despise the work of thine hands, and shine upon the counsel of the wicked?

Job 9:4 (Parallel theme): He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?

James 1:26 (Parallel theme): If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

Malachi 3:13 (Word): Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?