

Job 15:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?

Analysis

Eliphaz's rebuke intensifies: 'Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?' The 'east wind' metaphor suggests destructive, worthless speech. Eliphaz's rhetoric becomes more aggressive as Job refuses to accept simplistic explanations.

Historical Context

The east wind (sirocco) in ancient Palestine was hot, dry, and damaging to crops. Using it as metaphor for speech emphasizes destructiveness and futility.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. When does defending yourself against false accusations become 'east wind'?
2. How do you respond when escalating rhetoric replaces compassionate dialogue?

Interlinear Text

הֲחָכָם ׀	יִשָּׁן הַ	דַּעַת	ר וַחַ	וַיִּמַּל אַ	קָד יִם
Should a wise man	utter	knowledge	vain	and fill	with the east wind
H2450	H6030	H1847	H7307	H4390	H6921
בִּטְנוֹ:					
his belly					
H990					

Additional Cross-References

Job 6:26 (Parallel theme): Do ye imagine to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, which are as wind?

Job 8:2 (Parallel theme): How long wilt thou speak these things? and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?

Hosea 12:1 (Parallel theme): Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind: he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt.