

Job 15:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Trouble and anguish shall make him afraid; they shall prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.

Analysis

Fear overwhelms the wicked: 'Trouble and anguish shall make him afraid; they shall prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.' The imagery of overwhelming military force captures the wicked's experience—trouble and anguish attack like conquering armies. This theologically describes consequences of sin. Yet Eliphaz's error is assuming all who experience such overwhelming suffering must be wicked. Christ, the truly righteous one, experienced such anguish in Gethsemane.

Historical Context

Ancient Israelites knew the terror of invading armies (Assyria, Babylon). Using military imagery for internal distress would resonate powerfully. However, Israel's own suffering under foreign conquest complicated the simple equation: conquered ≠ always guilty.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's experience of overwhelming anguish despite His righteousness transform how we interpret suffering?
2. What comfort comes from knowing the righteous can experience trouble and anguish without it indicating God's displeasure?
3. How do we maintain that sin has consequences while acknowledging that suffering doesn't always indicate specific sin?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעַתְהוּ	צָר	וּמְצוֹקָהּ	וְתִקְפּוּ הוּא	כְּמֶלֶךְ לָאֵל
shall make him afraid	Trouble	and anguish	they shall prevail	against him as a king
H1204	H6862	H4691	H8630	H4428
לְפִידּוֹר:	עֵת יָד			
to the battle	ready			
H3593	H6264			

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