

Job 15:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He shall not be rich, neither shall his substance continue,
neither shall he prolong the perfection thereof upon the earth.

Analysis

The wicked's wealth won't last: 'He shall not be rich, neither shall his substance continue, neither shall he prolong the perfection thereof upon the earth.' Eliphaz promises wealth gained wickedly cannot endure. The threefold negative—not rich, not continue, not prolong—emphasizes complete loss. While Proverbs affirms that ill-gotten gain doesn't profit (Proverbs 10:2), Eliphaz wrongly assumes all loss indicates prior wickedness. Job's losses don't prove he gained wealth wickedly.

Historical Context

Ancient wisdom literature frequently taught that wicked wealth doesn't endure (Psalm 37, Proverbs). This principle generally proves true over time, but individual cases (like Job) require more nuanced interpretation than Eliphaz provides.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do we maintain that wickedness leads to loss without assuming all loss proves prior wickedness?

2. What biblical examples show the righteous losing wealth without indicating divine displeasure?
3. How should temporary earthly losses shape our pursuit of eternal treasures?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יֵעָשֶׂר	וְלֹא	יָקֻם	וְחֵיל וְ	וְלֹא
H3808	He shall not be rich	H3808	continue	neither shall his substance	H3808
	H6238		H6965	H2428	
	וְיִטֶּה	לָא כִּי	מִנְלָם:		
	neither shall he prolong	thereof upon the earth	the perfection		
	H5186	H776	H4512		

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