

Job 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?

Analysis

Eliphaz challenges Job: 'Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?' This accuses Job of claiming exclusive divine knowledge. The irony is that Job seeks answers while the friends claim certainty - yet God will later vindicate Job's humility.

Historical Context

Ancient wisdom traditions claimed access to divine secrets through tradition and experience. Eliphaz's challenge reveals his own certainty that his theology represents God's mind.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How do you distinguish between confident faith and presumptuous certainty?

2. When does defending doctrine become claiming exclusive access to God's secrets?

Interlinear Text

הַסֵּתֵר	אֵלֹהִים	הִשְׁמָעְךָ	וְתִגְבֹּרְךָ	אֵלֹהִים	חֵכְמָהּ
the secret	of God	Hast thou heard	and dost thou restrain	H413	wisdom
H5475	H433	H8085	H1639		H2451

Additional Cross-References

Romans 11:34 (Parallel theme): For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

Jeremiah 23:18 (Parallel theme): For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it?

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