

# Job 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

## Analysis

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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

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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

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**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

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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

|                   |               |                        |          |                               |                 |         |               |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|
| חָכְמָה:          | אֵל יְה       | וְבָסָד                | אֵל וְהַ | תִּשְׁתַּחַט ע                | וְתִּתְגַּנֵּעַ | אֵל יְה | וְבָסָד       |
| <b>the secret</b> | <b>of God</b> | <b>Hast thou heard</b> |          | <b>and dost thou restrain</b> |                 | H413    | <b>wisdom</b> |
| 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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