

Job 16:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O earth, cover not thou my blood, and let my cry have no place.

Analysis

Job's cry 'O earth, cover not thou my blood, and let my cry have no place' appeals to the ground itself to testify to injustice. Blood crying from the ground appears first in Genesis 4:10 (Abel) and anticipates Christ's blood that speaks better things (Hebrews 12:24).

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern justice believed innocent blood polluted the land and demanded vengeance. Job appeals to this principle, confident his innocence requires vindication.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does it mean for innocent blood to cry out for justice?
2. How does Christ's blood fulfill and transcend Job's appeal?

Interlinear Text

אֶרֶץ	אֶל	תִּכְסֶּי	דָּמִי	וְאֶל	יְהוָה	מִן	קִוּוּ
O earth	H408	cover	not thou my blood	H408	H1961	have no place	
H776		H3680	H1818			H4725	

לִשְׁקָתִי:
and let my cry
H2201

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 26:21 (Blood): For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Ezekiel 24:7 (Blood): For her blood is in the midst of her; she set it upon the top of a rock; she poured it not upon the ground, to cover it with dust;

Genesis 4:11 (Blood): And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;