

Job 17:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger.

Analysis

Job's confidence emerges: 'The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger.' Despite personal despair, Job affirms that righteousness ultimately prevails. This faith in moral order coexists with personal suffering's mystery.

Historical Context

Ancient wisdom literature emphasized perseverance in righteousness. Job's statement reflects confidence in ultimate justice even when immediate circumstances suggest otherwise.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain confidence in ultimate justice during present injustice?

2. What does it mean to become 'stronger and stronger' through trial?

Interlinear Text

וְיִחְיֶה זֶה
also shall hold The righteous on his way H2891
H270 H6662 H1870 H2891
וְיִתְהַלֵּךְ בְּדַבָּר
hands shall be H3027 H3254

אַמְתָּה:

stronger and stronger

H555

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 4:18 (Righteousness): But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Job 22:30 (Parallel theme): He shall deliver the island of the innocent: and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.

Psalms 84:7 (Parallel theme): They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.

Proverbs 14:16 (Parallel theme): A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.

Psalms 24:4 (Parallel theme): He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Psalms 26:6 (Parallel theme): I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:

Psalms 73:13 (Parallel theme): Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

Psalms 84:11 (Parallel theme): For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Genesis 20:5 (Parallel theme): Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

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