

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

וְיָאֵחַז	צִדִּיק	בְּדַרְכּוֹ	וְטָהַר	יָדָיו	יְסִיף
also shall hold	The righteous	on his way	H2891	hands	shall be
H270	H6662	H1870		H3027	H3254
אֲמָץ:					
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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