Job 18:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The snare is laid for him in the ground, and a trap for him in the way.

Analysis

Hidden traps surround the wicked: 'The snare is laid for him in the ground, and a trap for him in the way.' Bildad emphasizes hidden dangers—traps both in ground (concealed) and in the way (visible path). The wicked face danger in every direction. While sin does create such vulnerability, Bildad ignores that the righteous also face trials (John 16:33). His theology can't account for suffering that serves purposes beyond punishment.

Historical Context

Ancient hunting involved both concealed ground traps (covered pits) and path traps (snares across trails). This dual imagery suggests comprehensive vulnerability—no escape route available. Bildad uses hunting metaphors to describe divine justice pursuing the wicked.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

- 1. How does persistent sin create vulnerability to dangers we might otherwise avoid?
- 2. What biblical examples show the righteous facing trials despite their faithfulness?
- 3. How do we minister to sufferers without assuming their suffering indicates hidden sin?

Interlinear Text

ו מַלְכָּדְתּ וֹ טַמ וּן חַבְל וֹ עַלֵּי נַתִיב: בָּאָ כֶץ H5921 is laid for him in the ground The snare and a trap for him in the way H2934 H2256 H4434 H5410

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