

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

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

בְּתִיבָּה: **עַל** **אֵת** **מַלְכַּת** **וְ** **סְבָل** **וְ** **סְמָמֵת** **אֵת**
is laid **for him in the ground** **The snare** **and a trap** **H5921** **for him in the way**
H2934 H776 H2256 H4434 H5410

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