

Job 18:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His strength shall be hungerbitten, and destruction shall be ready at his side.

Analysis

The wicked's strength fails: 'His strength shall be hungerbitten, and destruction shall be ready at his side.' Hunger-bitten strength suggests weakening from deprivation—vigor sapped by lack. Destruction stands ready, waiting to strike. Bildad describes comprehensive weakness and imminent danger. While applicable to some wicked, this doesn't explain Job's situation. Job's losses came suddenly through Satan's attacks, not gradual weakening from sin-caused deprivation.

Historical Context

Ancient understanding recognized that hunger and deprivation weakened people physically and mentally. Besieged cities experienced this progressive weakening. Bildad applies siege imagery to individual judgment, assuming Job's condition indicates such divine siege.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do we distinguish suffering that results from our choices versus suffering that comes from external attack?
2. What does Job's story teach about Satan's role in suffering beyond simple punishment?
3. How does understanding spiritual warfare transform our interpretation of trials?

Interlinear Text

יְהִי	כֵּעַב	אֲנִי	וְאֵי־יָד	נָכֹן	לְצִלְעוֹ:
H1961	shall be hungerbitten	His strength	and destruction	shall be ready	at his side
	H7457	H202	H343	H3559	H6763

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