

Job 18:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It shall dwell in his tabernacle, because it is none of his:
brimstone shall be scattered upon his habitation.

Analysis

'It shall dwell in his tabernacle, because it is none of his: brimstone shall be scattered upon his habitation.' Bildad describes destruction of the wicked's dwelling: something will 'dwell' (תִּשְׁכֹּן, tishkon) in his 'tabernacle' (בֵּאוֹהֶלוֹ, be'oholo) 'because it is none of his' (לֹא מִלִּלּוֹ, mibli-lo), and 'brimstone' (גַּפְרִית, gafrit) scattered on his 'habitation' (נַוְהוּ, navehu). This alludes to Sodom and Gomorrah's destruction (Genesis 19:24). Bildad implies Job's household disaster parallels that divine judgment. The theology of God judging wickedness is sound; applying Sodom's judgment to Job is slander. Not all calamity parallels Sodom. The Reformed hermeneutic distinguishes general principles from specific applications. Bildad commits eisegetical abuse—forcing Job's experience into a predetermined interpretive framework.

Historical Context

Sodom and Gomorrah's brimstone destruction was proverbial for divine judgment. Bildad invokes this to argue Job's household destruction indicates similar wickedness and judgment.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How do we avoid wrongly applying biblical judgments to contemporary situations?
2. What safeguards prevent us from making every calamity evidence of Sodom-level wickedness?

Interlinear Text

תִּשְׁכּוּ	בְּ אֹהֶלֹ	מִבְּלִי	לֹ	יִזְכּוּ	עַל
It shall dwell	in his tabernacle	because it is none	H0	shall be scattered	H5921
H7931	H168	H1097		H2219	
נֶהְיָ	גִּפְרִית:				
upon his habitation	of his brimstone				
H5116	H1614				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 11:6 (Parallel theme): Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

Deuteronomy 29:23 (Parallel theme): And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath: