

Job 19:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.

Analysis

'He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.' The imagery: God 'destroyed' (יִתְּסֵנִי, yittetseni—broke down, demolished) Job on 'every side' (סָבִיב, saviv—all around), so 'I am gone' (וָאֶלֶךְ, va'elekh—I depart/perish), and 'hope' (תִּקְוָתִי, tiqvati) uprooted 'like a tree' (כַּעֲצָה, ka'ets). Trees uprooted die. Job feels hope destroyed at the root. Yet paradoxically, chapter 14:7 noted trees can sprout again—perhaps unconscious hope persists. This metaphor appears throughout Scripture (Jeremiah 1:10, Psalm 52:5). The violence of uprooting captures the totality of devastation. Yet Job's continued speech and eventual restoration prove hope has deeper roots than Job realizes. Christ is the true root (Isaiah 11:1, Revelation 5:5, 22:16).

Historical Context

Trees symbolized life, stability, and continuity. Uprooting destroyed all of this. Job uses this agricultural imagery to describe the comprehensive destruction of his life and hope.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does hope survive when it feels completely uprooted?
2. What does Christ as our root mean for enduring devastation?

Interlinear Text

וְהָרַסָּנִי	סָ בְּכָל	וְאֵלַי	וְסָ עָ	כְּעֵץ
He hath destroyed	me on every side	H1980	hath he removed	like a tree
H5422	H5439		H5265	H6086
וְתִקְוָתִי:				
and mine hope				
H8615				

Additional Cross-References

Job 24:20 (Parallel theme): The womb shall forget him; the worm shall feed sweetly on him; he shall be no more remembered; and wickedness shall be broken as a tree.

Job 12:14 (Parallel theme): Behold, he breaketh down, and it cannot be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening.