

Job 19:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

Analysis

Job's plea to his friends: 'Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.' The repeated 'have pity' emphasizes desperate need for compassion. Job explicitly attributes suffering to God yet still seeks human comfort.

Historical Context

Ancient friendship obligations included compassion in divinely-sent affliction. Job's appeal recognizes that divine causation doesn't eliminate need for human support.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you show compassion when someone attributes suffering to God?
2. What does it mean to receive affliction as God's 'touch'?

Interlinear Text

חַנְכִּי	אַתָּה מֶלֶךְ נָא	רַעַי	כְּ	לִדְ
Have pity H2603	Have pity H2603	H859	upon me O ye my friends H7453	H3588
of God H433	hath touched H5060	H0		for the hand H3027

Additional Cross-References

Job 1:11 (Parallel theme): But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Psalms 38:2 (Parallel theme): For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.

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