

Job 2:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

Analysis

Job's rebuke of his wife is theologically profound: 'shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?' The Hebrew 'ra'" (evil/calamity) acknowledges that both blessing and affliction come from God's sovereign hand. This is not dualism—God doesn't commit moral evil—but it affirms that God ordains all circumstances, including suffering (Isaiah 45:7). The narrator's verdict 'in all this did not Job sin with his lips' shows that accepting God's sovereignty over both prosperity and adversity is righteous, not fatalistic.

Historical Context

Job's response reflects a mature ancient Near Eastern wisdom tradition that acknowledged divine sovereignty over all of life, in contrast to the dualistic theologies of surrounding cultures that attributed evil to independent dark gods.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Do you truly accept both pleasant and painful circumstances as from God's hand?
2. How does Job's theology of sovereignty differ from fatalism or stoicism?

Interlinear Text

גַּם תֹּדַבְּ רִי פְּנַבְּלוֹת אֲלֵיכֶם יְיָ אָמַר
But he said speaketh as one of the foolish women speaketh What
H559 H413 H1696 H259 H5036 H1696 H1571

וְאַתָּה בְּאֵלָהִים מִאֵת נְקֻבֶּלֶת וּבְטוּבָה
H853 at the hand of God H853
good and shall we not receive H2896 H6901 H430

בְּטֻבָּה לֹא זֶה אַת בְּכָל נְקֻבֶּלֶת וְאֵילָן
evil and shall we not receive H3808 H6901 H3605 H2063 H3808 sin
H7451 H347 H8193 H2398

Additional Cross-References

James 1:12 (Parallel theme): Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Romans 12:12 (Parallel theme): Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Matthew 16:23 (References God): But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

John 18:11 (Parallel theme): Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?

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