

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

Psalms 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 תִּדְבֹּר רִי הַנְּבִלֹת אֶחָת תִּדְבֹּר רִי אֶל יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר
But he said H413 **speaketh** H1696 **as one** H259 **of the foolish women** H5036 **speaketh** H1696 **What** H1571

וְאֵת הָאֵלֹהִים יַמָּא תִקְבֹּל לְהָטוּב וְאֵת
H853 **good** H2896 **and shall we not receive** H6901 H853 **at the hand of God** H430 H853

חַטָּא לֹא זֶאת בְּכָל לְהָטוּב וְאֵת הָאֵלֹהִים יַמָּא תִקְבֹּל לְהָטוּב
H7451 **evil** H3808 **and shall we not receive** H6901 H3605 H2063 H3808 **sin** H2398

בְּשִׁפְתָיו: אֵי וּב
In all this did not Job H347 **with his lips** H8193

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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