

Job 21:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.

Analysis

Others die in bitterness: 'And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.' The contrast is stark—one dies in prosperity and ease, another in bitterness never having enjoyed life. Both experience death. Life's circumstances vary radically, but death comes to all. This observation should humble interpretive certainty about suffering indicating divine displeasure.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern wisdom recognized life's inequities—some prosper, others suffer. Job's observation that both meet the same end (death) anticipates Ecclesiastes' reflections on life's apparent meaninglessness apart from God's ultimate judgment.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does death's universality relativize the importance of temporal circumstances?

2. What comfort does eternal perspective provide to those who 'never eat with pleasure' in this life?
3. How do we maintain that circumstances matter while recognizing they're not ultimate?

Interlinear Text

וְהַ	אֲמוֹת	בֶּן נַפְשׁוֹ	מִרְחֵק	וְלֹא	אֵל כֹּל
H2088	And another dieth	of his soul	in the bitterness	H3808	and never eateth
	H4191	H5315	H4751		H398

בְּטוֹבָה:

with pleasure

H2896

Additional Cross-References

Job 7:11 (Parallel theme): Therefore I will not refrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.