

Job 21:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens,

Analysis

Job appeals to experience: 'Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens?' Job challenges his friends to ask travelers who've observed widely. Don't rely only on local, limited observation—ask those who've traveled and seen more. Their 'tokens' (evidence/testimony) would confirm Job's observations about wicked prosperity and righteous suffering. Broader experience challenges narrow theology.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern cultures valued travelers' testimony—those who'd seen different lands and peoples brought valuable perspective. Job appeals to this—don't trust only your limited local observation, ask those who've seen more widely.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does broad experience and observation refine theological understanding?

2. What dangers arise from basing theology only on limited personal experience?
3. How do we balance revealed truth with observational wisdom?

Interlinear Text

ל א י אַתָּה מ יְלַכֵּם שׁ אַלְתֶּם בְּלֹא

H3808

Have ye not asked

H7592

ע וּבָרִ

them that go

H5674

ד כְּרָ

by the way

H1870

מ תְּקַנְתָּם

their tokens

H226

H3808

תְּנַכְּרֹתָ

and do ye not know

H5234

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 129:8 (Parallel theme): Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the LORD be upon you: we bless you in the name of the LORD.

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