

Job 22:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

Analysis

The Almighty shall be thy defence—The Hebrew betser (בֵּצֶר) means fortified place, stronghold, or precious ore. Eliphaz plays on words: instead of hoarding gold ore (betsir, v. 24), Job should find his security in Shaddai (שָׁדָי, the Almighty) as his betser. **Thou shalt have plenty of silver** uses to'aphot kesef (תּוֹעֲפֹת כְּסֵף), literally 'heights/abundances of silver,' suggesting overflowing wealth.

The theology is partially sound: God should be our ultimate security (Psalm 18:2, Proverbs 18:10). However, Eliphaz implies this is conditional on repentance from imaginary sins. True faith trusts God as refuge even when He permits the loss of all earthly securities—the very lesson Job embodies (1:21). Paul learned this paradox: godliness with contentment is great gain, and true riches come through knowing Christ (1 Timothy 6:6, Philippians 3:8).

Historical Context

The name Shaddai (often translated 'Almighty') appears 31 times in Job, more than any other biblical book, reflecting the patriarchal era's preferred divine title. It emphasizes God's power and self-sufficiency. The promise of material abundance through righteousness was central to Ancient Near Eastern covenant theology, reaching full expression in Deuteronomy 28.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. In what ways do you seek security in material wealth rather than in God Himself?
2. How does Job's endurance without prosperity redefine what it means to have God as your defense?
3. What would change if you truly believed that knowing God is more valuable than all earthly riches?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת אֱלֹהִים
H1961 Yea the Almighty
שְׁלֵמָה
H7706
בְּצָרָךְ יְהֹוָה
H1220
וְאֵת סָלִיב
H3701
תּוֹעֵפָה וְתּוֹעֵבָה
H8443
and thou shalt have plenty

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Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 33:6 (Parallel theme): And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

Genesis 15:1 (Parallel theme): After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

Isaiah 41:10 (Parallel theme): Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Psalms 84:11 (Parallel theme): For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Psalms 18:2 (Parallel theme): The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

James 2:5 (Parallel theme): Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2 Corinthians 6:10 (Parallel theme): As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.