

Job 27:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This is the portion of a wicked man with God, and the heritage of oppressors, which they shall receive of the Almighty.

Analysis

This is the portion of a wicked man with God—(זה חֶלֶק־אָדָם בְּשֻׁעַע עַמְּאָל) cheleq (חֶלֶק, portion) refers to one's allotted inheritance or destiny. The wicked man's 'portion with God' is divine judgment. **The heritage of oppressors, which they shall receive of the Almighty**—(נוֹתְלָת עֲרִיצִים מִשְׁעָן וְקֹחָה) nachalah (נוֹתְלָה, heritage/inheritance) parallels 'portion,' emphasizing what the aritsim (עֲרִיצִים, oppressors/tyrants) will receive from Shaddai (שְׁעָן).

Job begins describing the wicked's ultimate fate (verses 13-23), affirming orthodox retribution theology—but with crucial qualification. The wicked do receive judgment, but not necessarily immediately or visibly in this life. This nuances his friends' simplistic formula while maintaining divine justice. The 'portion' and 'heritage' language draws on covenant theology: just as Israel received a land inheritance, the wicked receive judgment as their allotted portion. This prefigures Jesus's warnings about the unrighteous's 'portion' with hypocrites (Matthew 24:51) and the final judgment where each receives according to their deeds.

Historical Context

The concept of 'portion' (cheleq) and 'heritage' (nachalah) derives from Israel's land distribution theology but applies universally to divine justice. Job affirms that oppressors ultimately answer to Shaddai (the Almighty), a name emphasizing God's sovereign power to execute judgment regardless of earthly power structures.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Job's teaching on the wicked's ultimate 'portion' balance divine justice with the reality that judgment is often delayed?
2. What comfort does the certainty of God's final judgment provide when facing unpunished oppression in this life?
3. How should the doctrine of final judgment affect how Christians respond to injustice now?

Interlinear Text

הַ	זֶ	הַ	מִلְקָ	אֵ	תְּ	עַ	עַמְ	אֵ	לְ	תְּ	נָתַ
H2088	This is the portion	H2506	man	H120	of a wicked	H7563	with God	H410	and the heritage	H5159	
מִשְׁׁ	עַ	רִיאָ	תְּ		תְּ						
of oppressors	of the Almighty	which they shall receive									
H6184	H7706	H3947									

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 3:11 (Evil): Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.