

Job 27:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.

Analysis

Job vows: 'God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.' The phrase *chalilah li* (חַלִּילָה לִי, God forbid) is a strong denial —'far be it from me.' The verb *tsadaq* (צִדֵּק, justify) means to declare righteous or vindicate. Job refuses to validate his friends' false accusations even to end the argument. The phrase 'till I die I will not remove mine integrity' (*ad-egva lo-asir tummati mimmenni*, עַד־אֶגְוָא לֹא־אֲסִיר תַּמַּתִּי מִמֶּנִּי) shows absolute commitment to truth. Job would rather die maintaining innocence than live confessing false guilt.

Historical Context

In honor-shame cultures, admitting fault (even falsely) to restore social harmony was tempting. Job's refusal demonstrates extraordinary moral courage—he values truth over social acceptance. The vow 'till I die' proved prophetic, as Job maintained integrity through all trials until God vindicated him. The passage models that authentic integrity cannot be compromised even under extreme pressure.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does Job's refusal to confess false guilt teach about the importance of truth even when costly?
2. How does Job's commitment to integrity unto death prefigure Christ's faithfulness unto death?

Interlinear Text

הָלֹא	לִי	אֵם	אֶצְדִּיק	אֶתְּךָ	עַד	אֶגָּן	עַד	לֹא
God forbid	H0	H518	that I should justify	H853	H5704	you till I die	H3808	
H2486			H6663			H1478		
אֲסֹר	יְתִמְתִּי	יְתִמְתִּי	יְתִמְתִּי					
I will not remove	mine integrity	H4480						
H5493	H8538							

Additional Cross-References

Job 2:9 (References God): Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Job 13:15 (Parallel theme): Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.