

Job 29:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.

Analysis

Job's former status: 'I chose out their way, and sat chief, and dwelt as a king in the army, as one that comforteth the mourners.' This describes Job's leadership and compassion - he guided others and comforted the afflicted. The irony is sharp: the comforter now needs comfort.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern elders provided both judicial and pastoral leadership. Job's dual role (judge/comforter) reflects ideal leadership combining justice and mercy.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does experiencing suffering qualify you to comfort others?
2. What leadership qualities combine justice with compassion?

Interlinear Text

בָּגַד וַיִּד	כָּמֹלֶךְ	וְאָשְׁכֹן	רֹאשׁ	וַיֵּשֶׁב	וַיִּרְכָּם	אֲבִחַר
in the army	as a king	and dwelt	chief	and sat	out their way	I chose
H1416	H4428	H7931	H7218	H3427	H1870	H977
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וַיִּנְחֶם:	אֲבֵלִים	כְּאֵשׁ	רֹאשׁ			
as one that comforteth	the mourners					
H5162	H57					

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 41:40 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

Judges 11:8 (Parallel theme): And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.