

Job 3:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because it shut not up the doors of my mother's womb, nor hid sorrow from mine eyes.

Analysis

Job explains why he curses his conception night: 'Because it shut not up the doors of my mother's womb, nor hid sorrow from mine eyes.' The womb as having 'doors' that should have remained shut pictures conception as an entrance that should have been barred. Job wishes he had never been conceived so that he would have been spared his current suffering. This reflects the paradox of suffering: present pain can make past blessings seem like curses.

Historical Context

The imagery of the womb having doors or gates appears in ancient Near Eastern birth mythology, representing the transition from non-existence to existence.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does present suffering distort your perception of past blessings?
2. What would Job later learn that would change his perspective on the value of his existence despite his suffering?

Interlinear Text

לֹא כִּי בָּטַן יְלִתִּי רִיסַּת
H3588 H3808 Because it shut not up the doors of my mother's womb nor hid
H5462 H1817 H990 H5641

לֹא מִלְּפָנֵינוּ מִלְּפָנֵינוּ
H5999 H5869
sorrow from mine eyes

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