

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 כִי	סָגַר	בָּלַתִּי	בֶּטֶן־י	וְסָתַר
H3588	H3808	H5462	H1817	H5641
	Because it shut not up	the doors	of my mother's womb	nor hid
עָנָה לִי	מֵעֵינָי:			
H5999	H5869			
sorrow	from mine eyes			

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