

Job 3:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

Analysis

Job confesses, 'For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.' This reveals that even in prosperity, Job lived with some level of fear about potential loss. The Hebrew 'pachad' (feared/dreaded) suggests not mere worry but deep foreboding. This raises questions about the relationship between fear and faith, and whether Job's fear was prescient or spiritually problematic. The text doesn't condemn Job's admission, suggesting that even righteous people can harbor fears that God may permit to be realized.

Historical Context

Wisdom literature frequently addresses the relationship between prosperity and the fear of loss. Job's honesty about his fears is notable in a genre that often presents idealized portraits of the wise.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What role do fear and foreboding play in your spiritual life, even when circumstances are good?
2. How do you distinguish between realistic caution and sinful anxiety?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	פֶּחַד	פֶּחַדֹּתַי	וְאֵתִי נִי	וְאֵשׁ רַ
H3588	For the thing which I greatly	feared	is come	H834
	H6343	H6342	H857	
	וְגַדֹּתַי	וְבֹא	לִי:	
	upon me and that which I was afraid	of is come	H0	
	H3025	H935		

Additional Cross-References

Job 1:5 (Parallel theme): And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Job 30:15 (Parallel theme): Terrors are turned upon me: they pursue my soul as the wind: and my welfare passeth away as a cloud.

Job 31:23 (Parallel theme): For destruction from God was a terror to me, and by reason of his highness I could not endure.