

Job 30:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou liftest me up to the wind; thou causest me to ride upon it, and dissolvest my substance.

Analysis

Thou liftest me up to the wind (תִּשְׂאֵנִי אֶל-רוּחַ, tissaeini el-ruach)—The verb nasa (נָסָא) means 'to lift, carry, or raise up.' Job describes being caught in a divine whirlwind, suspended helplessly in forces beyond control. **Thou causest me to ride upon it** (תַּרְכִּיבֵנִי, tarkiveini)—from rakav (רָכַב), 'to mount' or 'ride,' but with violent connotation here, not peaceful journey.

Dissolvest my substance (וַתִּמְחַגְּגֵנִי תוֹשִׁיָּה, vat-mogegeini tushiyyah)—The verb mug (מוּג) means 'to melt, dissolve, or cause to melt.' Tushiyyah (תוֹשִׁיָּה) denotes 'sound wisdom' or 'success/substance,' appearing only 11 times in Scripture. Job feels his very being disintegrating under divine assault, his rational comprehension melting away. This imagery anticipates Psalm 22:14: 'I am poured out like water... my heart is like wax; it is melted.' Both texts foreshadow Christ's dissolution on the cross, where divine wrath melted the Righteous One.

Historical Context

Whirlwind imagery pervades ancient Near Eastern divine theophany accounts. Interestingly, God will later answer Job 'out of the whirlwind' (Job 38:1), using the very force Job here describes as hostile. The patriarchal setting lacks the apocalyptic framework of later Judaism, so Job interprets the whirlwind purely as destructive divine power, not as the vehicle of revelation it becomes.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. When has life felt like being caught in a whirlwind beyond your control, and how did you seek God in the chaos?
2. What does it mean that God sometimes uses the very forces that seem to destroy us as vehicles for His revelation?
3. How do Job's visceral descriptions of suffering validate honest expression of pain in prayer?

Interlinear Text

תָּשָׂא נִי	אֶל	ר וּחַ	תַּרְכִּיבִי נִי	ו תַּמְגֵּג נִי
Thou liftest me up	H413	to the wind	thou causest me to ride	upon it and dissolvest
H5375		H7307	H7392	H4127
תַּשְׁוָה:				
my substance				
H8454				

Additional Cross-References

Job 27:21 (Parallel theme): The east wind carrieth him away, and he departeth: and as a storm hurleth him out of his place.