

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 (תִּשְׁאֵנִי אֶל-רוּחַ, tissaeini el-ruach)—The verb *nasa* (נִשְׁאָא) 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** (תַּرְקֵיבֵנִי, tarkiveini)—from *rakav* (רָכֶב), 'to mount' or 'ride,' but with violent connotation here, not peaceful journey.

Dissolvest my substance (תַּמְגִּיכֵנִי תָּשִׁיחַ, vat-mogegeini tushiyah)—The verb *mug* (מָג) means 'to melt, dissolve, or cause to melt.' *Tushiyah* (תָּשִׁיחַ) 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

תָּמִיכָה	בְּנִי	תְּרַכֵּב	בְּנִי	תְּשַׁאֲנֵי	אֶל	רַוַּעַת	תְּשַׁאֲנֵי	תָּמִיכָה
Thou liftest me up	H413	to the wind		thou causest me to ride		upon it and dissolvest		
	H5375		H7307		H7392		H4127	

תְּשַׁאֲנֵה:
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.