

Job 34:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when he hideth his face, who then can behold him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only:

Analysis

Elihu observes: 'When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when he hideth his face, who then can behold him?' This acknowledges divine sovereignty over both blessing and hiddenness. Yet asserting God's power doesn't answer why He hides His face from the righteous.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern theology recognized divine hiddenness as judgment. Elihu assumes Job's suffering stems from sin requiring God to hide His face.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain faith when God hides His face?
2. What does divine hiddenness teach beyond judgment for sin?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת	תָּשַׁׁקְ	וְתָמֵן	וְרִשְׁעָם
H1931	When he giveth quietness	H4310	who then can make trouble
	H8252		H7561
וְאֵת	תָּשַׁׁקְ	וְתָמֵן	וְרִשְׁעָם
and when he hideth	his face	H4310	who then can behold
H5641	H6440		H7789
וְאֵת	תָּשַׁׁקְ	וְתָמֵן	וְרִשְׁעָם
him whether it be done against a nation	H5921	or against a man	only
H1471		H120	H3162

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 26:3 (Parallel theme): Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Psalms 27:9 (Parallel theme): Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Job 23:13 (Parallel theme): But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? and what his soul desireth, even that he doeth.