

Job 36:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: he is mighty in strength and wisdom.

Analysis

Elihu proclaims: 'Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: he is mighty in strength and wisdom.' This balances divine power with divine care - God's might doesn't produce contempt for His creatures. The statement contains truth even if Elihu misapplies it.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern deities were often depicted as capricious and contemptuous of humans. Elihu affirms that God's might includes mercy.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's power differ from human power that often produces contempt?
2. What does it mean that God is 'mighty in strength and wisdom'?

Interlinear Text

הֵן	אֵל	כֹּבֵד	יְלֹא	וְיִמָּאֵס	כֹּבֵד	בְּחֵזקָה
H2005	Behold God	is mighty	H3808	and despiseth	is mighty	in strength
	H410	H3524		H3988	H3524	H3581

לְבַיִת:

and wisdom

H3820

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 22:24 (Parallel theme): For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

Psalms 138:6 (Parallel theme): Though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.

Jeremiah 10:12 (Parallel theme): He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

Psalms 147:5 (Parallel theme): Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Job 37:23 (Parallel theme): Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

Job 31:13 (Parallel theme): If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my maidservant, when they contended with me;

Job 10:3 (Parallel theme): Is it good unto thee that thou shouldest oppress, that thou shouldest despise the work of thine hands, and shine upon the counsel of the wicked?

Job 9:19 (Parallel theme): If I speak of strength, lo, he is strong: and if of judgment, who shall set me a time to plead?

Job 9:14 (Parallel theme): How much less shall I answer him, and choose out my words to reason with him?

Jeremiah 32:19 (Parallel theme): Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org