

# Job 38:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

## Analysis

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"And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?" God quotes His own decree to the sea, using *ad-poh* (עַד־כֹּה), "thus far") to mark absolute limits. The personification continues—the sea has "proud waves" (*ge'on galekha*, גִּיאֹן גַּלִּיךָ). This reveals God's authority to command even the proudest natural forces. The verse anticipates Christ's calming of the storm (Mark 4:39), demonstrating that the incarnate Word possesses the same creative authority as the Father. God's ability to restrain chaos assures His people that no circumstance exceeds His control.

## Historical Context

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Ancient seafaring peoples greatly feared the ocean's power. Mediterranean storms were deadly. The sea's "pride" suggests autonomous threatening power that only the Creator could restrain. This passage would comfort Israel, often threatened by sea-based empires (Philistines, later Rome), by affirming God's ultimate authority over all threatening powers.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What "proud waves" in your life need to be reminded of God's sovereign decree?
2. How does Christ's authority over nature demonstrate His divine identity and power to save?

## Interlinear Text

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וַאֲמַר	עַד	פֹּה	תָּבוֹא	וְלֹא	תֵסֵיף	וְפֹה
And said	Hitherto	H6311	shalt thou come	H3808	but no further	H6311
H559	H5704		H935		H3254	
יָשָׁב יָם	בְּגָא וְ	גְּלִיָּהּ:				
be stayed	and here shall thy proud	waves				
H7896	H1347	H1530				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 89:9** (Parallel theme): Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

**Proverbs 8:29** (Parallel theme): When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

**Isaiah 27:8** (Parallel theme): In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it: he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.

**Job 2:6** (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.