

Job 38:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?

Analysis

God's opening challenge: 'Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?' This doesn't answer Job's questions but reframes them. God questions the questioner, revealing that human words about divine ways often obscure rather than illuminate truth.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern wisdom valued knowledge and understanding. God's rebuke suggests Job's speeches, though honest, lack necessary perspective.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do your words about God's ways sometimes darken rather than clarify?
2. What does it mean to speak 'without knowledge' even while being honest?

Interlinear Text

מִתְהַלֵּךְ

מִתְהַלֵּךְ

מִתְהַלֵּךְ יְהֹוָה
Who is this that darkeneth

H2821

מִתְהַלֵּךְ יְהֹוָה
counsel

H6098

מִתְהַלֵּךְ יְהֹוָה
by words

H4405

מִתְהַלֵּךְ יְהֹוָה
H1097

תְּדַבֵּר:

without knowledge

H1847

Additional Cross-References

Job 42:3 (Parallel theme): Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.

Job 35:16 (Word): Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain; he multiplieth words without knowledge.

1 Timothy 1:7 (Word): Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.

Job 34:35 (Word): Job hath spoken without knowledge, and his words were without wisdom.

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