

Job 38:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

Analysis

God commands: 'Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.' This summons Job to stand before divine interrogation. God doesn't answer Job's questions but poses counter-questions, shifting from human complaint to divine examination.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern legal proceedings featured direct examination. God reverses roles - Job wanted to question God, now God questions Job.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to 'gird up your loins' when confronting mystery?
2. How does God's examination of you differ from your examination of God?

Interlinear Text

וְהִזְעִיןִ אֲשֶׁר לְךָ בְּרִאָה
I will demand of thee and answer
Gird up like a man now thy loins for I will demand of thee and answer
H247 H4994 H1397 H2504 H7592 H3045

Additional Cross-References

Job 40:7 (Parallel theme): Gird up thy loins now like a man: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

Jeremiah 1:17 (Parallel theme): Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.

Exodus 12:11 (Parallel theme): And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover.

1 Peter 1:13 (Parallel theme): Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1 Kings 18:46 (Parallel theme): And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

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