

Job 38:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?

Analysis

God asks: 'Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?' This references stellar constellations beyond human control. Even the 'sweet influences' (beneficial effects) of stars operate under divine governance, not human manipulation.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern astrology attempted to harness stellar powers. God's question mocks this pretension - humans cannot control cosmic forces.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What cosmic forces beyond your control do you attempt to manipulate?
2. How does recognizing divine control of the stars humble human pretensions?

Interlinear Text

הַ, תִּקְשֹׁר	מַעֲדָנִים	כִּי הָ	אֹ	מִשְׁכַּב	כֶּסֶל
Canst thou bind	the sweet influences	of Pleiades	H176	the bands	of Orion
H7194	H4575	H3598		H4189	H3685
:תִּפְתָּח:					
or loose					
H6605					

Additional Cross-References

Job 9:9 (Parallel theme): Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south.

Amos 5:8 (Parallel theme): Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name: