

Job 38:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?

Analysis

God questions: 'Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?' This addresses the source of human wisdom - not self-generated but divinely implanted. Even human capacity to think about God comes from God.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern wisdom literature valued human understanding but rarely questioned its source. God's question reveals that even questioning requires divine enablement.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing wisdom as divine gift affect your intellectual pride?
2. What does it mean that even your questions about God come from God?

Interlinear Text

מִי	שָׁת	בְּטֶחַח	וְאֵת	חֵכְמָה	אִוִּי	נָתַן	
H4310	Who hath put	in the inward parts		wisdom	H176	H4310	or who hath given
	H7896	H2910		H2451			H5414
	לִשְׂכָוִי	בִּינָה:					
	to the heart	understanding					
	H7907	H998					

Additional Cross-References

Job 32:8 (Parallel theme): But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Psalms 51:6 (Parallel theme): Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 2:26 (Parallel theme): For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

Proverbs 2:6 (Parallel theme): For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

James 1:5 (Parallel theme): If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Job 9:4 (Parallel theme): He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?

Exodus 31:3 (Parallel theme): And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

James 1:17 (Parallel theme): Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

