

Job 39:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust,

Analysis

"Which leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in dust." The ostrich's unusual nesting behavior—leaving eggs on ground in sandy soil—seems negligent by human standards. Yet God designed this system perfectly for ostriches. Desert sand's heat incubates eggs; the parent returns periodically. What appears as parental failure is actually divine design suited to specific environment. This teaches against judging God's methods by human standards. His ways often appear strange but are perfectly suited to His purposes.

Historical Context

Ancient observers noted the ostrich's odd behavior, sometimes interpreting it as foolishness (Lamentations 4:3). God reveals this isn't deficiency but design. The ostrich thrives through methods that would fail for other species. This would teach humility about judging behaviors or circumstances that appear wrong but may be divinely designed.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What situations in your life seem negligent or wrong but might be God's perfect design?
2. How does this passage challenge judging others' methods that differ from conventional wisdom?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	תַעֲזֹב	לֹא רֶץ	בֶּצֶץ יָהּ	וְעַל	עָפָר ר	תַּחֲמָם:
H3588	Which leaveth	in the earth	her eggs	H5921	them in dust	and warmeth
	H5800	H776	H1000		H6083	H2552

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