

Job 39:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men.

Analysis

"He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men." The war-horse *yachperu* (יַחְפְּרוּ, "paws/digs") eagerly, rejoicing (*yasis*, יָשַׁח) in strength, charging toward armed enemies. God designed this creature to delight in what would terrify others. This teaches that God creates diverse temperaments and callings—some for peace, others for battle. The horse isn't corrupted by loving combat; it fulfills its design. Not everyone is called to the same peaceful pursuits.

Historical Context

Ancient warfare depended heavily on cavalry charges. The war-horse's eager aggression made it effective. God's design of creatures suited to warfare taught that righteous combat has a place in His purposes. This would encourage those called to defend justice through necessary force.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does this passage validate different callings, including those requiring confrontation?
2. What battles is God calling you to engage eagerly rather than avoid peacefully?

Interlinear Text

יְהִפָּר וְ	בַּעֲמֻקַּי	וַיִּשְׂשׂ יֵשׁ	בְּכֹחַ	לֹא יֵא	לִקְרֹאת
He paweth	in the valley	and rejoiceth	in his strength	he goeth on	to meet
H2658	H6010	H7797	H3581	H3318	H7125

נִשְׁקָיו׃
the armed men
H5402

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 8:6 (Parallel theme): I hearkened and heard, but they spake not aright: no man repented him of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? every one turned to his course, as the horse rusheth into the battle.