

Job 39:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows.

Analysis

"They bow themselves, they bring forth their young ones, they cast out their sorrows." God describes the birthing process—the bowing (kara, קָרָע, "crouch/bow") and delivery. Even wild animals experience pain ("sorrows," chebel, חֶבֶל, "birth pains") but successfully bring forth offspring without human assistance. This reveals God's provision for all creatures, sustaining them through vulnerable moments. It implicitly asks Job: if God cares for wild goats in labor, won't He care for you in your suffering?

Historical Context

Animal husbandry was common, but wild animal births occurred hidden from view. The process's success without human intervention demonstrated God's direct care for creation. This would assure agricultural societies that God actively sustains all life, not just domesticated animals serving human purposes.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's care for animals in their most vulnerable moments encourage trust in His care for you?
2. What does this passage teach about suffering being part of natural processes under God's governance?

Interlinear Text

שְׁבַלִּיכָּם תִּפְלִלְתְּ חִנָּה וְלִדְיִךְ | תְּכַרְעֵבָה
They bow their young ones themselves they bring forth their sorrows
H3766 H3206 H6398 H2256

תְּשַׁלְּחֵנָה:
they cast out
H7971

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