

Job 39:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing.

Analysis

"The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searcheth after every green thing." God describes the wild ass's habitat—mountain ranges where it seeks (darash, שָׁדַד, "search/seek") vegetation. The verb suggests active searching, not passive grazing. God designed this creature with instincts and abilities perfectly suited to its harsh environment. This demonstrates divine care in matching creatures to habitats. The wild ass doesn't envy domesticated animals' easier lives; it thrives in freedom doing what God created it for.

Historical Context

Mountain pastures were generally unsuitable for domesticated herds, which needed accessible grasslands near settlements. Wild asses adapted to marginal lands demonstrated God's comprehensive design—no niche left unfilled, no environment without perfectly suited inhabitants.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the wild ass's contentment in harsh freedom challenge cultural pursuits of comfort?
2. Are you thriving in the environment God placed you, or envying others' different callings?

Interlinear Text

יַתּוֹר	הַר יָם	מִרְעֵה הוּ	אַחֲרַי	כָּל	יֵרֶק וְקֵן
The range	of the mountains	is his pasture	after	H3605	every green thing
H3491	H2022	H4829	H310		H3387
וַיִּדְרֹשׁ:					
and he searcheth					
H1875					