

Job 4:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.

Analysis

Eliphaz describes his vision: 'Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.' The Hebrew 'pachad' (fear) and 'ra'adah' (trembling) suggest terror, while 'pagar' (meet/encounter) indicates unexpected confrontation. Eliphaz's physical response—bones shaking—supposedly validates his revelation's divine origin. Yet Scripture shows that dramatic experiences don't guarantee true revelation (Matthew 7:22-23). God's word must be tested against God's revealed character.

Historical Context

Prophetic experiences in the ancient Near East often included physical manifestations—trembling, fear, overwhelming presence. Eliphaz's description follows conventional patterns for claiming divine encounter.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you distinguish between genuine divine revelation and impressive but false spiritual experiences?
2. What role should physical manifestations play in validating spiritual truth claims?

Interlinear Text

הַפְּחִיד: עֲצָמֹת יְהֹוָה בְּרִאָה כִּי אָנִי פֵּתֶת
Fear came which made all my bones to shake

Fear came H7460 which made all H7230 my bones H6106 to shake H6342

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 1:17 (Parallel theme): And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

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