

Job 40:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty.

Analysis

"Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty." God sarcastically challenges Job to clothe himself with divine attributes. The Hebrew verbs—adeh (אָדַה, "adorn yourself") with gaon (גָּאוֹן, "majesty/pride") and hod (הוֹד, "splendor/majesty")—describe royal or divine glory. This exposes human inability to assume God's role. We cannot fabricate the attributes necessary for righteous governance. The verse teaches that recognizing what we lack should produce humility, not resentment.

Historical Context

Ancient kings clothed themselves in magnificent garments symbolizing authority and glory. Yet even royal splendor paled before divine majesty. God's challenge reminded Job (and readers) that no human can assume divine prerogatives. This would humble pretensions to question God's governance.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What divine attributes do you wish you had, forgetting that only God can possess them?
2. How does accepting your creaturely limitations paradoxically free you from anxiety?

Interlinear Text

הַ דֶּקַּה	נָ א H4994	גָּ אֵן H1347	וְ בָהּ H1363	וְ הִד H1935
Deck H5710		thyself now with majesty	and excellency	thyself with glory
וְ הִד רַ H1926	תִּלְבָּשׁ: H3847			
and beauty	and array			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 93:1 (Parallel theme): The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.

Psalms 149:4 (Parallel theme): For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Isaiah 59:17 (Parallel theme): For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.