

Job 40:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee.

Analysis

"Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee." If Job could do what verses 11-13 describe—execute perfect judgment—God would acknowledge Job could save himself. The Hebrew *odeka* (עָדַע, "I will confess/acknowledge to you") indicates God admitting Job's self-sufficiency. But Job cannot, therefore needs God's salvation. This reveals the core issue: human inability to save ourselves necessitates divine grace. The verse anticipates the gospel—recognizing our powerlessness is the prerequisite for receiving God's saving power.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern religions often portrayed salvation as human achievement through ritual or moral performance. God's statement demolishes such thinking—humans cannot save themselves. Only recognizing this opens the way to receiving God's gracious salvation. This prepared for gospel revelation of salvation by grace through faith.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What areas of life reveal your inability to save yourself, requiring complete dependence on God?
2. How does recognizing your powerlessness paradoxically become the doorway to experiencing God's power?

Interlinear Text

לְבָטָחָתִךְ אַתְּ וְיִגְמַעַת
H1571 H589 Then will I also confess H3034 H3588 can save H3467 H0

unto thee that thine own right hand
H3225

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