

Job 40:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then answered the LORD unto Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

Analysis

"Once have I spoken; but I will not answer: yea, twice; but I will proceed no further." Job commits to silence—he spoke "once" and "twice" (Hebrew idiom for "repeatedly"), but now stops. The verb asif (אָסִיף, "I will add/proceed") is negated. Job recognizes his previous speeches, though sincere, were presumptuous. This demonstrates repentance—not for moral failure but for epistemic pride. Job thought he could judge God's ways; now he knows better. The verse models proper response to divine revelation—ceasing self-justification and accepting God's authority.

Historical Context

In ancient legal contexts, ceasing to plead one's case signaled acceptance of the judge's authority. Job effectively drops his lawsuit against God. This would resonate with ancient readers familiar with legal proceedings. Job's silence represents abandoning demands for explanation and submitting to divine sovereignty.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What arguments with God do you need to cease, accepting His sovereign authority instead?
2. How does Job's model of stopping self-justification inform your response to divine correction?

Interlinear Text

וְאָמַרְתָּ לְעֵד
Then answered the LORD unto Job
H6030 H3068 H853 H347 H4480 H5591 H559

Additional Cross-References

Job 38:1 (References Lord): Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org