

Job 5:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn?

Analysis

Eliphaz challenges Job: 'Call now, if there be any that will answer thee; and to which of the saints wilt thou turn?' The Hebrew 'qadosh' (saints/holy ones) likely refers to angels rather than deceased righteous humans. Eliphaz sarcastically suggests Job's situation is so hopeless that even angelic intervention won't help—a cruel mockery of Job's suffering. This reveals how religious people can use theology as a weapon to wound rather than a balm to heal.

Historical Context

Appeals to angelic or divine beings for intervention appear throughout ancient Near Eastern literature. Eliphaz's sarcasm suggests he believes Job's case is beyond even heavenly help, implying Job's guilt is obvious and extreme.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you guard against using theological truth as a weapon rather than medicine?

2. When have you felt so abandoned that even prayer seemed futile? How did you persevere?

Interlinear Text

מִי אֵל עַזְבָּא נִשְׁתַּחַ וְנִזְבַּח
Call H4994 now if there be any that will answer
H7121 H3426 H6030 H413 H4310

תְּפִלָּה: יְהִי מִלְּדוֹשׁ תְּפִלָּה:
thee and to which of the saints wilt thou turn
H6918 H6437

Additional Cross-References

Job 15:15 (Holy): Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints; yea, the heavens are not clean in his sight.

Job 4:18 (Parallel theme): Behold, he put no trust in his servants; and his angels he charged with folly: