

Job 5:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.

Analysis

Eliphaz concludes: 'Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.' The imagery pictures death as natural harvest at the proper time—a full, blessed life ending peacefully. The Hebrew 'kelach' (full age/maturity) contrasts with premature death. Eliphaz promises Job will die peacefully in old age if he repents, implying his current suffering threatens premature death because of sin. This contradicts God's own assessment of Job's righteousness (Job 1:8).

Historical Context

Dying in 'full age' with many descendants and seeing one's children established was the ideal ancient Near Eastern blessing (Genesis 25:8, Job 42:17). Eliphaz uses this cultural ideal to pressure Job to confess non-existent sins.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain faith when God doesn't grant the culturally-defined 'blessed life'?
2. What does a truly blessed life look like from a biblical rather than cultural perspective?

Interlinear Text

תָּבֹא וְאֵלֶי	בְּכֹחַ לַחַיִּים	אֵלֶי	לְקַבֵּר	כְּעֵל וְתֵל	גֵּד יֵשׁ
Thou shalt come	in a full age	H413	to thy grave	cometh in	like as a shock of corn
H935	H3624		H6913	H5927	H1430
בְּעֵתוֹ:					
in his season					
H6256					

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 15:15 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

Proverbs 9:11 (Parallel theme): For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

Genesis 25:8 (Parallel theme): Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

Psalms 91:16 (Parallel theme): With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Proverbs 10:27 (Parallel theme): The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.