

# Job 6:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The troops of Tema looked, the companies of Sheba waited for them.

## Analysis

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Job continues: 'The troops of Tema looked, the companies of Sheba waited for them.' Tema and Sheba were important trade routes in Arabia. These experienced caravans 'looked' (Hebrew 'nabat'—gazed intently) and 'waited' (Hebrew 'qavah'—hoped expectantly) for the streams. Even the experienced are deceived by deceptive wadis. Similarly, Job (no fool about theology) expected genuine comfort from his friends but was disappointed. This warns that even mature believers can be misled by plausible but false counsel.

## Historical Context

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Tema and Sheba were major Arabian trading centers whose caravans regularly traversed desert routes. Their experience made them knowledgeable about water sources, yet even they could be deceived by deceptive wadis.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How do you guard against deception even when counsel seems plausible and comes from apparently wise sources?
2. What does the failure of experienced caravans teach us about the deceptiveness of false theology?

## Interlinear Text

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לְמַן־לְאַלְמָן שֵׁב אַרְחַ וְתַּחַת בֵּיתִי  
looked The troops of Tema the companies of Sheba waited H3926  
H5027 H734 H8485 H1979 H7614 H6960

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 21:14** (Parallel theme): The inhabitants of the land of Tema brought water to him that was thirsty, they prevented with their bread him that fled.

**Genesis 25:15** (Parallel theme): Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah:

**Jeremiah 25:23** (Parallel theme): Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners,

**1 Kings 10:1** (Parallel theme): And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to prove him with hard questions.