

Job 6:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant me the thing that I long for!

Analysis

Job wishes for death: 'Oh that I might have my request; and that God would grant me the thing that I long for!' The Hebrew 'she'elah' (request) and 'tiqvah' (hope/expectation) reveal Job's deepest desire—that God would grant his wish. The next verse clarifies this wish is for death. Job appeals directly to God rather than to the 'saints' Eliphaz mockingly suggested (5:1). This models appropriate prayer even in despair—bringing honest desires to God while ultimately submitting to His will.

Historical Context

Direct appeals to deity for specific requests appear throughout ancient Near Eastern prayer literature. Job's request follows conventional prayer patterns but with the unusual content of asking for death.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you pray honestly about your darkest desires while maintaining submission to God's will?
2. What does Job's willingness to ask God for death teach us about prayer's proper boundaries?

Interlinear Text

מִי H4310	יִתְּ H5414	וְאֵל H935	שְׁאֵלָתִי H7596	! תִּקְוָתִי H8615
	would grant	Oh that I might have	my request	me the thing that I long for
	יִתְּ H5414	אֵלֹהִים : H433		
	would grant	and that God		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 119:81 (Parallel theme): My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word.