

Job 8:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How long wilt thou speak these things? and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?

Analysis

Bildad begins with rhetorical aggression: 'How long wilt thou speak these things? and how long shall the words of thy mouth be like a strong wind?' He dismisses Job's lament as empty rhetoric, revealing impatience with suffering that doesn't conform to theological categories.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern debate featured strong rhetoric, but Bildad's impatience violates wisdom's call for careful listening. His 'strong wind' accusation echoes Job's own wind imagery (7:7) but weaponizes it.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. When have you dismissed someone's suffering because it challenged your theology?
2. How do you balance doctrinal conviction with compassionate listening?

Interlinear Text

כ ב יר וְרַם אַלְהָ תִּמְלָל אַע | עַד
long How wilt thou speak wind be like a strong
H5704 H575 H4448 H428 H7307 H3524

אָמַרְתִּי פִּיכְנָה:

these things and how long shall the words of thy mouth

H561 H6310

Additional Cross-References

Job 6:26 (Word): Do ye imagine to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, which are as wind?

Job 15:2 (Parallel theme): Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?

1 Kings 19:11 (Parallel theme): And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

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