

Job 9:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whom, though I were righteous, yet would I not answer, but I would make supplication to my judge.

Analysis

Job states 'Though I were righteous, yet would I not answer, but I would make supplication to my judge.' This paradox captures the book's tension: Job maintains innocence yet recognizes he cannot defend himself before absolute holiness. Only supplication, not self-justification, remains appropriate before God.

Historical Context

Ancient legal proceedings assumed both parties stood on equal ground, but Job recognizes divine-human asymmetry. This anticipates New Testament teaching that even righteousness is filthy rags before God (Isaiah 64:6).

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain your integrity while acknowledging unworthiness before God?
2. What's the difference between self-justification and righteous supplication?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר H834	אִם H518	כִּי יִדְקֶינִי H6663	לֹא H3808	אֲעֹנֶה H6030
		Whom though I were righteous		yet would I not answer
לִּי מִשְׁפָּט יְיָ H8199		אֶתְחַנֵּן: H2603		
to my judge		but I would make supplication		

Additional Cross-References

Job 10:15 (Righteousness): If I be wicked, woe unto me; and if I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. I am full of confusion; therefore see thou mine affliction;

Job 8:5 (Parallel theme): If thou wouldest seek unto God betimes, and make thy supplication to the Almighty;

Job 5:8 (Parallel theme): I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:

Job 22:27 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

Job 10:2 (Parallel theme): I will say unto God, Do not condemn me; shew me wherefore thou contendest with me.