

# Job 1:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

## Analysis

The final material loss—his children—represents the crescendo of Job's trial. The house collapse during a windstorm from the wilderness demonstrates that even the venue of family fellowship becomes an instrument of loss. The death of all ten children at once surpasses the material losses, testing whether Job's worship depends on God's gifts or God Himself. This anticipates Christ's teaching that we must love God more than even our closest family (Matthew 10:37).

## Historical Context

Houses in the ancient Near East, particularly those hosting feasts, were substantial structures. A wind strong enough to collapse such a building would be recognized as an extraordinary event, contributing to the perception of divine causation.

## Related Passages

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

1. What would it cost you to say with Job, 'The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away'?
2. How do you guard against idolizing family above God?

## Interlinear Text

וְיַעֲשֵׂה	מִתְבָּרֵךְ	זֶה	זֶה	בְּאַתְּ	וְיֹאמֶר
H5750	H2088	<b>While he was yet speaking</b>	H2088	<b>there came</b>	<b>also another and said</b>
		H1696		H935	H559
פְּשָׁدֵד יִם	שֶׁ מִזְוֵן	שֶׁלֶשׁ הַ	רָאשׁ יִם	יִפְשַׁט וְ	עַל הַגְּמֻלִים
<b>The Chaldeans</b>	<b>made out</b>	<b>three</b>	<b>bands</b>	<b>and fell</b>	<b>upon the camels</b>
H3778	H7760	H7969	H7218	H6584	H1581
וְיִצְחַק יִמְלֹךְ	וְיִאָתֵה	בְּנֵעֶר יִמְלֹךְ	הַכְּפָר	לְפִי	
<b>and have carried them away</b>	H853	<b>the servants</b>	<b>yea and slain</b>	<b>with the edge</b>	
H3947		H5288	H5221	H6310	
לְרַב	לְבַדִּי	אָנֹכִי	לְבַדִּי	לְמַגְדָּל	לְהַ
<b>of the sword</b>	<b>and I only am escaped</b>	H7535	H589	H905	<b>alone to tell</b>
H2719	H4422				H0

## Additional Cross-References

**Genesis 11:28** (Parallel theme): And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees.

**Habakkuk 1:6** (Parallel theme): For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not their's.