

# Job 16:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbour!

## Analysis

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Job's longing: 'O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbour!' This desire for mediation echoes 9:33 and anticipates Christ's high priestly role. Job recognizes the need for someone who can bridge the divine-human gap.

## Historical Context

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Ancient legal systems provided advocates for those unable to defend themselves. Job's wish for such mediation before God anticipates 1 John 2:1 (Jesus as advocate).

## Related Passages

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ fulfill Job's longing for an advocate?

2. What comfort comes from having someone who pleads your case before God?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיַּעֲמֹד כְּבָרְגָּר אֶל-עַמּוֹ	לְגַדְעַם	וְיִזְעַמֵּן	וְיִזְעַמֵּן
O that one might plead	for a man	H5973	with God
H3198	H1397	H433	pleadeth for his neighbour

  

אֲדֹם כְּבָרְגָּר	לְרַעַתְּהָוָה
as a man	H7453

H120

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ecclesiastes 6:10** (Parallel theme): That which hath been is named already, and it is known that it is man: neither may he contend with him that is mightier than he.

**Isaiah 45:9** (Parallel theme): Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

**Romans 9:20** (References God): Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

**Job 13:3** (References God): Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.

**Job 13:22** (Parallel theme): Then call thou, and I will answer: or let me speak, and answer thou me.

**Job 31:35** (Parallel theme): Oh that one would hear me! behold, my desire is, that the Almighty would answer me, and that mine adversary had written a book.