

# Job 17:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They change the night into day: the light is short because of darkness.

## Analysis

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Job's world is inverted: 'They change the night into day: the light is short because of darkness.' Job experiences reality's distortion—normal rhythms disrupted, light overwhelmed by darkness. This describes more than insomnia; it's the disorientation suffering brings. Everything feels wrong, upside-down. Yet Job's ability to articulate this chaos shows he hasn't lost all orientation. Naming the experience creates a foothold for faith to maintain grip on reality.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern thought valued cosmic order—day, night, seasons following divine decree. Job's description of chaos invading order reflects the worldview that sin and evil disrupt creation's proper functioning. Prophetic literature similarly depicts judgment as cosmic disorder.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does suffering distort our perception of reality and normal rhythms?

2. What practices help maintain orientation when everything feels upside-down?
3. How does naming our experience of chaos help us maintain faith's grip?

## Interlinear Text

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לַ לַיְלָה	לִי וּמִן	יִשַׁב יָמָיו	אֵל אֶת הָאוֹר	קָרִיב הָאֵל	מִפְּנֵי	חֹשֶׁךְ:
the night	into day	They change	the light	is short	because	of darkness
H3915	H3117	H7760	H216	H7138	H6440	H2822

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