

# Job 19:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

## Analysis

---

Job's relatives abandon him: 'My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.' The double loss—family failing and friends forgetting—emphasizes Job's complete social isolation. 'Failed' suggests they stopped functioning in their proper roles. 'Forgotten' indicates deliberate abandonment, not mere absence. This describes suffering's social dimension—those who should support flee instead. Yet this isolation drives Job toward God, his ultimate advocate.

## Historical Context

---

Ancient Near Eastern culture valued kinship bonds and friendship obligations highly. Family and friends provided social safety net, identity, and support. Their absence represented not just loneliness but existential crisis—loss of social location and identity.

## Related Passages

---

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

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

## Study Questions

---

1. How does suffering reveal who truly remains committed versus who was only circumstantially present?
2. What does Job's experience teach about finding God sufficient when human support fails?
3. How can we be friends who remain present during others' long, difficult trials?

## Interlinear Text

---

סָדַל וְ	קִרְוֹבִי	וּמֵיֶדְעִי	שָׁכְחוּנִי:
have failed	My kinsfolk	and my familiar friends	have forgotten
H2308	H7138	H3045	H7911

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Psalms 38:11** (Parallel theme): My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.