

# Job 19:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth.

## Analysis

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Job's servant ignores him: 'I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth.' The role reversal escalates—Job entreats his own servant who won't answer. Ancient masters commanded; Job must plead. This humiliation demonstrates suffering's comprehensive nature—it doesn't just cause pain but inverts all normal relationships. Yet this prepares Job for entreating God, where the posture of suppliant is appropriate.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern masters held absolute authority over servants. For a servant to refuse response would be shocking insubordination, typically punishable. That Job can only entreat, not command, shows his complete loss of authority and status.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

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

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does humiliation prepare us to approach God appropriately as supplicants?
2. What distinguishes unhealthy humiliation from healthy humility before God?
3. How does Christ's voluntary humiliation transform our experience of being humbled by circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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לְעַבְדִּי	קָרָאתִי	וְלֹא	יָעַן ה'	בְּמוֹ	פִּי
my servant	I called	H3808	and he gave me no answer	him with	my mouth
H5650	H7121		H6030	H1119	H6310
אֶתְחַנֵּן	לוֹ:				
I intreated	H0				
H2603					

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