

# Job 2:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.

## Analysis

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Job's three friends—Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar—hear of his calamities and come 'to mourn with him and to comfort him.' Their names and origins suggest they represent the wisdom traditions of the wider Ancient Near East. Their initial motivation appears righteous: covenant friendship demands presence in suffering. This sets up the tragedy that follows—good intentions without divine wisdom produce false comfort that 'makes the heart sick' (Proverbs 13:12).

## Historical Context

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The friends' distant origins (Teman in Edom, Shuah in Arabia, Naamah location uncertain) demonstrate Job's international reputation and influence. Their willingness to travel considerable distances shows the depth of their friendship.

## Related Passages

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. When friends are suffering, do you prioritize presence over solutions?
2. How do you discern between godly counsel and well-intentioned but false comfort?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּשְׁמָע ו	שָׁל שְׁתָּן	רֵעֵי י	אִי וּב	אֵת	כָּל	הַרָעָה
heard	three	friends	Now when Job's	H853	H3605	of all this evil
H8085	H7969	H7453	H347			H7451
הַזֹּאת	לֵב וְא	עָלָיו	לֵב וְא	אֶיֶשׁ	מִמְקוֹמוֹ	
H2063	that was come	H5921	that was come	every one	from his own place	
	H935		H935	H376	H4725	
אֵלִיפַז	הַתֵּמַנִּי	וּבִלְדָּד	הַשּׁוּחִי	וְצוֹפָר	הַנַּעֲמָתִי	
Eliphaz	the Temanite	and Bildad	the Shuhite	and Zophar	the Naamathite	
H464	H8489	H1085	H7747	H6691	H5284	
וַיַּעַד ו	יַחְדָּו	לֵב וְא	לָנוּד	ל ו		
for they had made an appointment	together	that was come	to mourn	H0		
H3259	H3162	H935	H5110			
וַיִּנְחֻמוּ:						
with him and to comfort						
H5162						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 12:15** (Parallel theme): Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

**Job 42:11** (Evil): Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the

LORD had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold.

**Proverbs 17:17** (Parallel theme): A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

**Jeremiah 49:7** (Parallel theme): Concerning Edom, thus saith the LORD of hosts; Is wisdom no more in Teman? is counsel perished from the prudent? is their wisdom vanished?

**Genesis 25:2** (Parallel theme): And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah.

**Job 6:14** (Parallel theme): To him that is afflicted pity should be shewed from his friend; but he forsaketh the fear of the Almighty.

**1 Corinthians 12:26** (Parallel theme): And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

**Genesis 36:11** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz.