

# Job 20:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Knowest thou not this of old, since man was placed upon earth,

## Analysis

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Zophar appeals to tradition: 'Knowest thou not this of old, that the triumphing of the wicked is short?' This invocation of ancient wisdom attempts to silence Job through conventional theology. Yet Job's experience challenges this comfortable certainty.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern wisdom valued tradition as authoritative. Zophar's appeal to 'old' knowledge reveals how tradition can blind us to present reality.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. When does appealing to traditional wisdom become avoidance of hard questions?
2. How do you balance respect for tradition with honest engagement with reality?

## Interlinear Text

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עַלְיָהּ אֵלֶּהָ קָרְבָּן אֶת

H2063

**Knowest**

H4480

**thou not this of old**

H4480

**was placed**

**since man**

H5921

H3045

H5703

H7760

H120

אָרֶץ:

**upon earth**

H776

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