

# Job 27:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,

## Analysis

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**Moreover Job continued his parable** (וַיַּשֵּׁב אֶת אִיּוֹב אֶת הַפָּרָבָה). The verb yasaph (יָשַׁב) means to add or continue—Job persists in his defense despite his friends' failure to understand. Mashal (מָשָׁל, parable/proverb) indicates elevated discourse, poetic wisdom speech rather than mere conversation. This term appears for Balaam's oracles (Numbers 23:7), marking Job's words as prophetic utterance.

The phrase signals a turning point—Job has endured three cycles of debate with his friends, and now intensifies his self-defense (chapters 27-31). His 'parable' will affirm his integrity while acknowledging God's sovereignty, preparing for the divine speeches in chapters 38-41. The structure mirrors prophetic literature where God's spokesman perseveres in declaring truth despite opposition.

## Historical Context

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Job 27 marks the conclusion of the dialogue cycles and Job's final major speech before Elihu's intervention. The use of 'mashal' (parable/oracle) elevates the discourse beyond human argument to wisdom that anticipates divine revelation. This literary structure reflects Ancient Near Eastern wisdom dialogues where truth emerges through dialectical persistence.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does Job's persistence in speaking truth despite misunderstanding encourage you to maintain theological conviction under pressure?
2. What does Job's use of elevated 'parable' discourse teach about taking seriously the weight and form of our words about God?
3. In what ways should we balance Job's bold self-defense with Christ's silent submission before accusers?

## Interlinear Text

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|------------------|---------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|
| וַיִּקְרָא       | אֶתְּ               | שְׁמֵי | וְ                 | הָאֱלֹהִים:     |
| <b>continued</b> | <b>Moreover Job</b> | H5375  | <b>his parable</b> | <b>and said</b> |
| H3254            | H347                |        | H4912              | H559            |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 29:1** (Parallel theme): Moreover Job continued his parable, and said,

**Numbers 24:15** (Parallel theme): And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:

**Numbers 23:7** (Parallel theme): And he took up his parable, and said, Balak the king of Moab hath brought me from Aram, out of the mountains of the east, saying, Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy Israel.