

Job 3:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day.

Analysis

Job's curse upon his birthday marks the transition from patient endurance (1:21-22, 2:10) to raw lament. The Hebrew verb 'cursed' (qalal) intensifies the depth of Job's anguish - he wishes to un-create his own existence. This brutal honesty before God models faithful lament that doesn't minimize suffering.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern wisdom literature often included laments, but Job's curse is unique in its theological depth. Written during a time when birth was universally celebrated as blessing, Job's words shock by inverting creation's goodness.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. Is it sinful to wish you had never been born when suffering becomes unbearable?

2. How does Job's lament give you permission to be honest with God?

Interlinear Text

אַחֲרַי	כִּי	פָּתַח	אֶת	פִּי יְהוָה	וַיִּקְלֵל	אֶת	יוֹמוֹ:	
After	H3651	this opened	Job	H853	his mouth	and cursed	H853	his day
H310		H6605	H347	H6310	H7043		H3117	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 106:33 (Parallel theme): Because they provoked his spirit, so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.

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