

# Job 3:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?

## Analysis

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Job's rhetorical questions 'Why died I not from the womb?' reveal the depth of his torment. The interrogative form demands answers from God while acknowledging there are none readily apparent. This tension between questioning and faith characterizes the entire book - honest doubt does not equal unbelief.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern cultures viewed stillbirth and infant mortality as common but tragic. Job's wish for death at birth subverts the cultural assumption that life is always preferable to non-existence.

## Related Passages

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

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What questions do you have for God that seem unanswerable?

2. How can questioning God actually be an act of faith rather than doubt?

## Interlinear Text

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לֹא לְפָה  
H4100 H3808 I not from the womb  
מִקְרָם  
H7358  
אֶמְרָת  
H4191  
מִבְּטָן  
H990  
יָצַא אֶתְּנִי  
H3318 when I came out

אַתְּנִי:

why did I not give up the ghost

H1478

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 46:3** (Parallel theme): Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne by me from the belly, which are carried from the womb:

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