

# Job 3:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The small and great are there; and the servant is free from his master.

## Analysis

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Job declares, 'The small and great are there; and the servant is free from his master.' Death abolishes all earthly hierarchies and distinctions. The slave finds freedom from his master not through rebellion or manumission but through death's great leveling. For Job, whose wealth and status have vanished, this equality in death seems preferable to continued life with its painful reversals of fortune. This anticipates the gospel truth that in Christ, earthly distinctions fade (Galatians 3:28).

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern societies had rigid class structures with significant gaps between the powerful and powerless. Job's observation that death eliminates these distinctions was countercultural and radical.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

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