

Job 3:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Job spake, and said,

Analysis

Job's breaking silence after seven days marks the transition from patient endurance to honest lament. The phrase 'opened his mouth' (Hebrew 'patach peh') appears elsewhere at crucial moments of prophetic utterance (Ezekiel 3:27, 33:22). Job's speech isn't sin—the narrator never condemns it—but rather the outpouring of authentic human grief. Reformed theology affirms that lament is a legitimate response to suffering, distinct from sinful accusation against God.

Historical Context

In wisdom literature, formal speeches follow structured patterns. Job's opening with curse rather than blessing signals the depth of his anguish while remaining within acceptable bounds of covenant complaint.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Do you give yourself permission to honestly express grief to God?
2. How do you distinguish between legitimate lament and sinful accusation in your prayers?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּן אֵי זָב וַיֹּאמֶר:

spake

And Job

and said

H6030

H347

H559

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org