

# Job 3:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which rejoice exceedingly, and are glad, when they can find the grave?

## Analysis

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Job describes the bitter paradox: sufferers 'rejoice exceedingly, and are glad, when they can find the grave.' The Hebrew 'sus' (rejoice exceedingly) and 'samach' (are glad) are normally used for positive celebrations—weddings, victories, deliverances. Job inverts this language: finding the grave becomes the occasion for celebration. This reflects how intense suffering can completely reverse normal human desires and values.

## Historical Context

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The language of rejoicing and gladness permeates ancient Near Eastern celebration contexts. Job's application to finding the grave creates jarring cognitive dissonance, emphasizing his suffering's intensity.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does Job's inversion of celebration language help you understand the depth of suffering?

2. When has suffering so distorted your perspective that normal values seemed reversed?

## Interlinear Text

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זָהָרָה יְמִינָה וְשָׁמֶן יְמִינָה  
the grave when they can find and are glad exceedingly rejoice  
H6913 H4672 H3588 H7797 H1524 H413 Which rejoice

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