

# Job 3:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in?

## Analysis

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Job describes himself as one 'whose way is hid' and whom 'God hath hedged in.' The imagery of God's hedge appears earlier as protection (1:10), but now Job experiences it as confinement. This paradox captures the mystery of divine providence - the same God who protects can also perplex.

## Historical Context

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The Hebrew word 'hedged' (sakak) suggests both protection and imprisonment, revealing how suffering can make God's presence feel like absence. This anticipates Christ's cry of dereliction (Matthew 27:46).

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. Have you experienced God's protection as confinement during suffering?
2. How do you reconcile God's loving presence with painful circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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לְגִבְעָר	אֲשֶׁר	דֶּרֶךְ	נִסְתַּחַת	בָּה	יְסַרֵּךְ
Why is light given to a man	whose way	is hid	hath hedged in		
H1397	H834	H1870	H5641		H5526
וְאֵלֹהִים	בְּעֵדָיו				
and whom God					
H433	H1157				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 19:8** (Parallel theme): He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths.

**Lamentations 3:7** (Parallel theme): He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out: he hath made my chain heavy.

**Isaiah 40:27** (References God): Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

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