

# Job 3:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let that day be darkness; let not God regard it from above,  
neither let the light shine upon it.

## Analysis

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Job curses the day of his birth, wishing it had been darkness rather than light. The Hebrew 'choshek' (darkness) contrasts with creation's first day when God separated light from darkness (Genesis 1:3-4). Job's wish for his birth day to retroactively become darkness reveals his desire for non-existence rather than continued suffering. This doesn't constitute suicide—Job never takes action against his life—but expresses the legitimate feeling that death would be preferable to agony. Even this God permits in Scripture.

## Historical Context

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Cursing one's birth day parallels Ancient Near Eastern lament traditions (compare Jeremiah 20:14-18), representing permissible hyperbolic expression of grief rather than literal magical attempts to alter the past.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. Have you experienced suffering so intense that you wished you'd never been born?
2. How does Job's honest expression of his feelings model authentic relationship with God?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל	וְקַ	יִדְרַשׁ	הָוֶה	אֶל	בַּיִם	וְמִ
<b>Let that day</b>	H1931	H1961	<b>be darkness</b>	H408	<b>regard</b>	<b>let not God</b>
	H3117			H2822		H1875
						H433

  

עַל	וְ	תֹּזֵפּ	עַל	מִתְּעַלָּ	נִבְרָה:
<b>it from above</b>	H408	<b>shine</b>	H5921	<b>neither let the light</b>	
	H4605		H3313		H5105

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