

# Job 31:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my  
maidservant, when they contended with me;

## Analysis

---

Job defends his treatment of servants: 'If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my maidservant, when they contended with me; What then shall I do when God riseth up?' Job's recognition of servants' rights and divine judgment reveals remarkable social conscience for his era.

## Historical Context

---

Ancient Near Eastern cultures generally granted masters absolute authority over servants. Job's respect for servants' 'cause' (legal right) reflects unusual ethical sensitivity.

## Related Passages

---

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

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

## Study Questions

---

1. How does your treatment of those under your authority reflect your view of God?
2. What does Job's social conscience teach about justice?

## Interlinear Text

---

|      |                         |                  |                         |                             |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| אִם  | אָמַצְטִי               | מִשְׁפַּטִּי     | עַבְדִּי                | אִמָּתִי                    |
| H518 | <b>If I did despise</b> | <b>the cause</b> | <b>of my manservant</b> | <b>or of my maidservant</b> |
|      | H3988                   | H4941            | H5650                   | H519                        |

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| וְרַב־ | עַמִּדִּי: |
| H7378  | H5978      |

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)