

# Job 6:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

What time they wax warm, they vanish: when it is hot, they are consumed out of their place.

## Analysis

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Job continues: 'What time they wax warm, they vanish: when it is hot, they are consumed out of their place.' Summer heat dries the streams—exactly when travelers need water most. Similarly, the heat of Job's trials has evaporated his friends' support. The Hebrew 'chamam' (wax warm/hot) and 'tsamath' (vanish/are consumed) describe complete disappearance. This models the failure of human comfort when divine comfort is needed—friends can sit with us, but ultimately only God can sustain through fire (Isaiah 43:2).

## Historical Context

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The deadly danger of trusting wadis that dried up was well-known to ancient Near Eastern travelers. Caravans could perish when expected water sources proved dry, making Job's metaphor vivid and powerful.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How do you respond when human comfort fails and only God remains?

2. What does the failure of Job's friends teach us about the limits of human help in suffering?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּעֵת	יָרַב	וְ	נִצְתָּה	תֹּוּ	בְּחֵמָה	וְ	נִלְאַכְּדָה	וְ
<b>What time</b>	<b>they wax warm</b>		<b>they vanish</b>	<b>when it is hot</b>	<b>they are consumed out</b>			
H6256	H2215		H6789	H2527			H1846	
מִלְּאָמָּה								
<b>of their place</b>								
H4725								

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