

Job 7:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore I will not refrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

Analysis

Job refuses to restrain his speech: 'I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.' This commitment to honest prayer models authentic relationship with God. Lament is not rebellion but faith that God can handle our hardest questions.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern piety often emphasized stoic acceptance, but biblical lament makes room for emotional honesty. Job's complaint becomes the basis for relationship rather than its breakdown.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What complaints have you been afraid to voice to God?
2. How does honest lament deepen rather than damage relationship with God?

Interlinear Text

גַּם	אֲנִי	לֹא	אֶחְשָׁךְ	פִּי	אֶדְבָּרָה
H1571	H589	H3808	Therefore I will not refrain	my mouth	I will speak
			H2820	H6310	H1696
בְּצָר	רוּחִי	אֶשׁ יַחֵהּ	בְּמַר	נַפְשִׁי:	
in the anguish	of my spirit	I will complain	in the bitterness	of my soul	
H6862	H7307	H7878	H4751	H5315	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 40:9 (Parallel theme): I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.

Job 10:1 (Parallel theme): My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

1 Samuel 1:10 (Parallel theme): And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

Isaiah 38:17 (Parallel theme): Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

Isaiah 38:15 (Parallel theme): What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

Job 21:25 (Parallel theme): And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.

Job 16:6 (Parallel theme): Though I speak, my grief is not asswaged: and though I forbear, what am I eased?

Job 10:15 (Parallel theme): If I be wicked, woe unto me; and if I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. I am full of confusion; therefore see thou mine affliction;

Job 13:13 (Parallel theme): Hold your peace, let me alone, that I may speak, and let come on me what will.

Job 6:26 (Parallel theme): Do ye imagine to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, which are as wind?

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