

Questioning God's Actions (Job 7)

I. Job Compares His Life to A Struggling Laborer (v. 1-2)

A. A Man's Days are Like a Hired Worker (v. 1)

1. Man is forced to Labor on the earth
2. Man's days are like a hired servant
 - i. these "hired servants" were poor domestic or agricultural worker in desperate need of each days wages
 - ii. Job's life is toil and anguish for no reward

B. A Hired Worker Longs for the Evening (v. 2)

1. The evening is the only time workers rest
2. The evening is when the workers get paid
3. The evening is the only joy in the workers life
 - i. Job finds himself longing for rest
 - ii. Job cannot find rest

II. Job Anguishes in Hopeless Suffering (v. 3-10)

A. Job's Misery is Unceasing (v. 3-6)

1. When Tribulation is Persistent (v. 3)
 - i. Job's emptiness seemed to go on and on
 - ii. Job's nights are always filled with trouble
2. When Rest Does not seem possible (v. 4)
 - i. Job cannot find rest in the night
 - ii. Job's nights seem long and continuous
3. When Ease from suffering doesn't come (5)
 - i. Job is stricken by painful disease
 - ii. Job can get no ease from his pain
4. When Hope seems lost (6)
 - i. Job's days are flying by
 - a. though his suffering seems endless
 - ii. Job fears that he will dies before relief comes

B. Job Has Lost Hope in God's Protection (7-10)

1. When Restoration Seems Impossible (7-8)
 - i. Job believes he will never see "good" again
 - a. It is easy to despair when there is no hope of change
 - b. It is easy to believe what "is" is the way it will always be
 - ii. Job believes God will not deliver him (8)
 - a. God's "eye" on Job means his care and protection
 - b. When God finally decides to relent – Job will be gone
 - c. Death will come before restoration
2. When Death Seems like the only end to Suffering (9-10)
 - i. Job understands that people don't come back from death (Sheol)
 - ii. Job understands that death will remove his chance to be restored to his house and position.

iii. The restoration of Job's life and health is quickly disappearing as a possibility

III. Job Cries Out To God (v. 11-21)

A. Job Brings His Complaint Against God (11-16)

1. Job Speaks Out in Frustration (11)

i. If death is all that is left, he reasons that he may not have another opportunity

ii. "I will not restrain my mouth"

iii. I will speak in the anguish of my spirit

iv. I will complain in the bitterness of my soul

a. Job does not seem overly righteous here

b. Yet, all of us would be likely to relate to his actions

c. Job cannot hold in his grief any longer

2. Job Questions God's "Attack" on him (12)

i. Job wonders why God has taken so much interest to destroy him

a. He asks, Am I so evil that you have done this?

b. He asks if God sees him as the personification of evil

- Am I the Sea?

- Am I the Sea monster?

ii. Job wonders why God is punishing him

a. Why have you set guard over me?

b. Why are you raining all this tribulation on my head

3. Job Complains That God Refuses to Let Him Rest (13-15)

i. Job cannot find rest in the most basic things

a. He tries to find rest in sleep

b. He finds no rest because God sends terrifying dreams and visions

ii. Bad enough that Job suffers physically and emotionally, but it seems that God will not relent to even give Job a moment's peace.

iii. Job would rather suffocate in his sleep than face the horror of the dreams God brings upon him (v. 15)

4. Job Cries for God to Stop Tormenting Him (v. 16)

i. Job feels like he is wasting away

ii. Job doesn't have much time left and he is wasting it suffering

iii. Job cries, "Leave me alone." To God

B. Job Questions God's Actions Against Him (v. 17-21)

1. Job Questions God's Selection of Him (17-19)

i. What is man that you are so concerned about him (17)

a. This is spoken in a negative sense

b. The "concern" is to cause Job suffering

ii. Why do you try me every moment? (18)

a. God seems to examine Job's faults at every moment

b. God seems to rain down judgment at every moment

iii. Why won't you leave me alone? (19)

2. Job Questions God's Fairness (20)

- i. Have I sinned? – Job asks
- ii. What have I done to you? – Job asks God
 - a. all sin is violence against God's nature
 - b. God is righteous to punish all
- iii. Why have you set me as your target
 - a. Job implies that God is unfair in judgment
 - b. Job implies that he doesn't deserve what is happening

3. Job Expects God's Forgiveness (21-22)

- i. Why do you not pardon me?
- ii. Why do you not remove my sin?
- iii. Job repeats his hopeless state