

Job 17-19 English Standard Version

Job Continues: Where Then Is My Hope?

- 17** "My spirit is broken; my days are extinct;
the graveyard is ready for me.
- 2** Surely there are mockers about me,
and my eye dwells on their provocation.
- 3** "Lay down a pledge for me with you;
who is there who will put up security for me?
- 4** Since you have closed their hearts to understanding,
therefore you will not let them triumph.
- 5** He who informs against his friends to get a share of their property—
the eyes of his children will fail.
- 6** "He has made me a byword of the peoples,
and I am one before whom men spit.
- 7** My eye has grown dim from vexation,
and all my members are like a shadow.
- 8** The upright are appalled at this,
and the innocent stirs himself up against the godless.
- 9** Yet the righteous holds to his way,
and he who has clean hands grows stronger and stronger.
- 10** But you, come on again, all of you,
and I shall not find a wise man among you.
- 11** My days are past; my plans are broken off,
the desires of my heart.
- 12** They make night into day:
'The light,' they say, 'is near to the darkness.'^[a]
- 13** If I hope for Sheol as my house,
if I make my bed in darkness,
- 14** if I say to the pit, 'You are my father,'
and to the worm, 'My mother,' or 'My sister,'
- 15** where then is my hope?

- Who will see my hope?
16 Will it go down to the bars of Sheol?
Shall we descend together into the dust?" [b]

Bildad Speaks: God Punishes the Wicked

18 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said:

- 2** "How long will you hunt for words?
Consider, and then we will speak.
3 Why are we counted as cattle?
Why are we stupid in your sight?
4 You who tear yourself in your anger,
shall the earth be forsaken for you,
or the rock be removed out of its place?

5 "Indeed, the light of the wicked is put out,
and the flame of his fire does not shine.
6 The light is dark in his tent,
and his lamp above him is put out.
7 His strong steps are shortened,
and his own schemes throw him down.
8 For he is cast into a net by his own feet,
and he walks on its mesh.
9 A trap seizes him by the heel;
a snare lays hold of him.
10 A rope is hidden for him in the ground,
a trap for him in the path.
11 Terrors frighten him on every side,
and chase him at his heels.
12 His strength is famished,
and calamity is ready for his stumbling.
13 It consumes the parts of his skin;
the firstborn of death consumes his limbs.
14 He is torn from the tent in which he trusted
and is brought to the king of terrors.
15 In his tent dwells that which is none of his;
sulfur is scattered over his habitation.
16 His roots dry up beneath,
and his branches wither above.
17 His memory perishes from the earth,

- and he has no name in the street.
- 18** He is thrust from light into darkness,
and driven out of the world.
- 19** He has no posterity or progeny among his people,
and no survivor where he used to live.
- 20** They of the west are appalled at his day,
and horror seizes them of the east.
- 21** Surely such are the dwellings of the unrighteous,
such is the place of him who knows not God."

Job Replies: My Redeemer Lives

19 Then Job answered and said:

- 2** "How long will you torment me
and break me in pieces with words?
- 3** These ten times you have cast reproach upon me;
are you not ashamed to wrong me?
- 4** And even if it be true that I have erred,
my error remains with myself.
- 5** If indeed you magnify yourselves against me
and make my disgrace an argument against me,
- 6** know then that God has put me in the wrong
and closed his net about me.
- 7** Behold, I cry out, 'Violence!' but I am not answered;
I call for help, but there is no justice.
- 8** He has walled up my way, so that I cannot pass,
and he has set darkness upon my paths.
- 9** He has stripped from me my glory
and taken the crown from my head.
- 10** He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone,
and my hope has he pulled up like a tree.
- 11** He has kindled his wrath against me
and counts me as his adversary.
- 12** His troops come on together;
they have cast up their siege ramp[c] against me
and encamp around my tent.
- 13** "He has put my brothers far from me,
and those who knew me are wholly estranged from me.
- 14** My relatives have failed me,

- my close friends have forgotten me.
- 15** The guests in my house and my maidservants count me as a stranger;
I have become a foreigner in their eyes.
- 16** I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer;
I must plead with him with my mouth for mercy.
- 17** My breath is strange to my wife,
and I am a stench to the children of my own mother.
- 18** Even young children despise me;
when I rise they talk against me.
- 19** All my intimate friends abhor me,
and those whom I loved have turned against me.
- 20** My bones stick to my skin and to my flesh,
and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.
- 21** Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, O you my friends,
for the hand of God has touched me!
- 22** Why do you, like God, pursue me?
Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?
- 23** "Oh that my words were written!
Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
- 24** Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!
- 25** For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.^[d]
- 26** And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in^[e] my flesh I shall see God,
- 27** whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!
- 28** If you say, 'How we will pursue him!'
and, 'The root of the matter is found in him,'^[f]
- 29** be afraid of the sword,
for wrath brings the punishment of the sword,
that you may know there is a judgment."

Footnotes

- a. Job 17:12 The meaning of the Hebrew is uncertain
- b. Job 17:16 *Or Will they go down to the bars of Sheol? Is rest to be found together in the dust?*
- c. Job 19:12 Hebrew *their way*

- d. Job 19:25 Hebrew *dust*
- e. Job 19:26 Or *without*
- f. Job 19:28 Many Hebrew manuscripts *in me*

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Matthew 10:21-42 English Standard Version

21 Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, **22** and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. **23** When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant^[a] above his master. **25** It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign^[b] those of his household.

Have No Fear

26 "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. **27** What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. **28** And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.^[c] **29** Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?^[d] And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. **30** But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. **31** Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. **32** So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, **33** but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Not Peace, but a Sword

34 "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. **35** For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. **36** And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. **37** Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. **38** And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. **39** Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Rewards

40 "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. **41** The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. **42** And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Footnotes

- a. [Matthew 10:24](#) Or *bondservant*; also verse [25](#)
- b. [Matthew 10:25](#) Greek lacks *will they malign*
- c. [Matthew 10:28](#) Greek *Gehenna*
- d. [Matthew 10:29](#) Greek *assarion*, Roman copper coin (Latin *quadrans*) worth about 1/16 of a *denarius* (which was a day's wage for a laborer)

English Standard Version (ESV)

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