

Job's Lament

Chapter Three

The Theme of The Book of Job

- A** How is a man just before the Lord?-Job 9:1-3
- B** What is the role of suffering in revealing the purpose of the Lord?

Chapters 1-2 Chapters 3-31 Chapters Chapters Chapter 42
32-37 38-41

Job's Test Job's Three Elihu God Job
Historical Friends Speaks Speaks Restored
Historical

Dialogue and Speeches

Job 3:1-26

“After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. And Job said: “Let the day perish on which I was born, and the night that said, ‘A man is conceived.’ Let that day be darkness! May God above not seek it, nor light shine upon it. Let gloom and deep darkness claim it. Let clouds dwell upon it; let the blackness of the day terrify it. That night—let thick darkness seize it!

Let it not rejoice among the days of the year; let it not come into the number of the months. Behold, let that night be barren; let no joyful cry enter it. Let those curse it who curse the day, who are ready to rouse up Leviathan. Let the stars of its dawn be dark; let it hope for light, but have none, nor see the eyelids of the morning, because it did not shut the doors of my mother's womb, nor hide trouble from my eyes.

“Why did I not die at birth, come out from the womb and expire? Why did the knees receive me? Or why the breasts, that I should nurse? For then I would have lain down and been quiet; I would have slept; then I would have been at rest, with kings and counselors of the earth who rebuilt ruins for themselves, or with princes who had gold, who filled their houses with silver. Or why was I not as a hidden stillborn child, as infants who never see the light? There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary are at rest. There the prisoners are at ease together; they hear not the voice of the taskmaster. The small and the great are there, and the slave is free from his master.”

“Why is light given to him who is in misery, and life to the bitter in soul, who long for death, but it comes not, and dig for it more than for hidden treasures, who rejoice exceedingly and are glad when they find the grave? Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden, whom God has hedged in? For my sighing comes instead of my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water. For the thing that I fear comes upon me, and what I dread befalls me. I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest, but trouble comes.”

After This

- Job three starts out the next event by letting us know that after the arrival of his friends and the customary allotted time for mourning Job opened his mouth and spoke.
- This was after all the tragedy and personal suffering.
- The loss of his children, the loss of his wealth, the loss of his health, and the loss of his standing in the community.
- The expression of compassion from his friends.
- Now Job will begin to speak about his situation.

“In the first speech the spectacle of human misery is presented with poignancy that is quite overwhelming. Job is stunned because he cannot deny that it is the Lord who has done all this to him. Even more piteous than his question ‘Why?’, which the best answers of his friends cannot satisfy, is his desperate need to find again his lost Friend.”-Anderson

Job Curses His Day Of Birth

- The original intent of Satan was to get Job to curse God.
- Job didn't succumb to the temptation to curse God but instead cursed the day he was born.
- “Giving the reins wholly to his grief, he roareth and rageth beyond all reason; and had not the Spirit held him back, he would surely have run headlong into blasphemy and desperation, which was Satan’s design.”-Trapp
- Job was in so much turmoil and pain that he feels at this moment it would have been better to not have been born at all.

- Job's physical condition, as in our own lives, plays a part in his spiritual condition of depression.
- We are body, soul, and spirit and all three make up what it is to be human and in no way can we separate the physical condition of Job from his spiritual condition.
- A person who is dealing with chronic pain may be physically weakened and more prone to fall prey to spiritual struggles as demonstrated here in Job's case.

- Job is a man who at this point in his life is questioning the goodness of God in giving him life.
- Although Job did not directly blame God he did so indirectly by blaming God for giving him life.
- “This section depicts a man loudly complaining about his lot in life, yet showing that he is still in submission, loyal and obedient to God’s will.” (Harrison)
- Job considered his conception as the beginning of his existence, “...the night that said, ‘A man is conceived.’ Let that day be darkness!” (Job 3:3; Psalm 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:5)

- Jeremiah acted as Job did under his affliction: “Cursed be the day on which I was born! The day when my mother bore me, let it not be blessed! Cursed be the man who brought the news to my father, “A son is born to you,” making him very glad. Let that man be like the cities that the LORD overthrew without pity; let him hear a cry in the morning and an alarm at noon, because he did not kill me in the womb; so my mother would have been my grave, and her womb forever great. Why did I come out from the womb to see toil and sorrow, and spend my days in shame?”- **Jeremiah 20:14-18**
- If we ever come to a point when as believers we feel we have hit rock-bottom we may know through the testimony of scripture that Job and Jeremiah have been there before and have survived.

- “Job’s thinking was somewhat common among the ancients. The historian Herodotus described an ancient people who mourned new births (for the suffering that the new life would endure) and rejoiced in deaths (as a final release from the suffering of life).”-Guzik
- “A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.”-**Ecclesiastes 7:1**

17 Curses About Job's Birthday

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
1.	“Let the day perish on which I was born...”	Job 3:3
2.	“the night that said, ‘A man is conceived.’”	Job 3:3
3.	“Let that day be darkness!”	Job 3:4
4.	“May God above not seek it”	Job 3:4
5.	“nor light shine upon it.”	Job 3:4
6.	“Let gloom and deep darkness claim it.”	Job 3:5
7.	“Let clouds dwell upon it;”	Job 3:5
8.	“let the blackness of the day terrify it.”	Job 3:5
9.	“let thick darkness seize it!”	Job 3:6

17 Curses About Job's Birthday

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
10.	“Let it not rejoice among the days of the year;”	Job 3:6
11.	“let it not come into the number of the months.”	Job 3:6
12.	“Behold, let that night be barren;”	Job 3:7
13.	“let no joyful cry enter it.”	Job 3:7
14.	“Let those curse it who curse the day, who are ready to rouse up Leviathan.”	Job 3:8
15.	“Let the stars of its dawn be dark;”	Job 3:9
16.	“let it hope for light, but have none,”	Job 3:9
17.	“nor see I the eyelids of the morning,”	Job 3:9

Two Reasons For The 17 Curses

- Job gives two reasons to his seventeen-fold curse:
 - 1) “because it did not shut the doors of my mother’s womb,”-**Job 3:10**
 - 2) “nor hide trouble from my eyes.”-**Job 3:10**
- Job’s grievance is that it would be better if he were never born than to endure his present state of affliction.

“It is easy – but very, very wrong – to think that Job was a sinner because he was so emotional. But the Bible does not present to us a stoic, unfeeling, “stiff upper lip” approach to the problems of life. “It cannot be emphasized too strongly that the startling sentiments expressed in this speech do not mean that Job has cracked under the strain. There is no hint that Satan has finally made his point... The Lord’s testing is not to find out if Job can sit unmoved like a piece of wood.”-Andersen

Leviathan

- “Let those curse it who curse the day, who are ready to rouse up Leviathan.”-**Job 3:8**
- Leviathan is used throughout scripture as a sea creature that causes chaos.
- “In that day the LORD with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.”-**Isaiah 27:1**

- This is the first mention of this creature in the Bible but Leviathan will be revealed more prominently in a long discourse beginning at Job 41, where God is the only One Who controls this fierce creature.
- Job's description in chapter 41, appears to indicate a dragon.
- “His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the dawn. Out of his mouth go flaming torches; sparks of fire leap forth. Out of his nostrils comes forth smoke, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. His breath kindles coals, and a flame comes forth from his mouth.”-Job 41:18-21

Bible Footnotes For Leviathan

- NIV: "Possibly the crocodile"
- NASV: "The crocodile"
- NKJV: "A large sea creature, exact identity unknown"
- "There can be no doubt that the **Leviathan** is the chaos dragon of the ancient myths." -Andersen

Does This Look Like Leviathan In Job 41?



Or Does This Look Like Leviathan?





Man and Dino

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Medieval Decorations



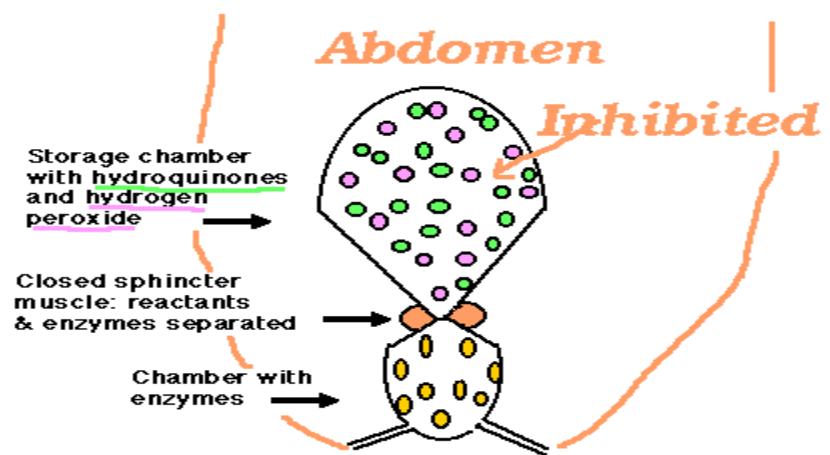
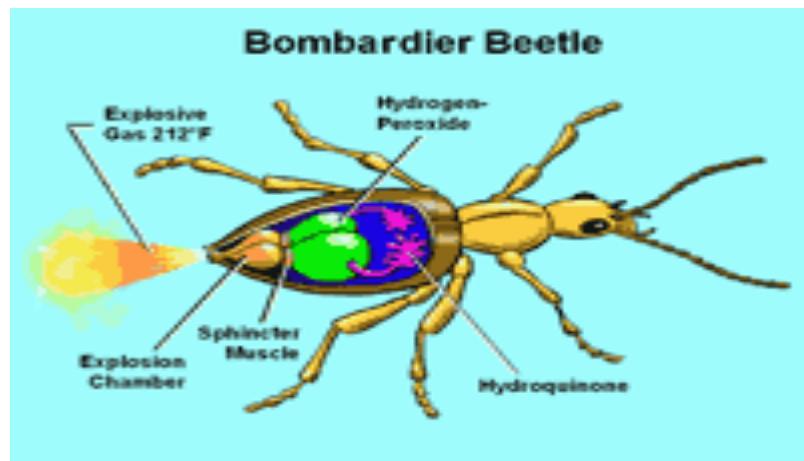
St. George Slaying A Dragon



BOMBARDIER BEETLE



"Bombardier beetles [1/2" in size] store two separate chemicals (hydroquinone and hydrogen peroxide) that are NOT mixed until threatened. When this occurs the two chemicals are squirted through 2 tubes, where they are mixed along with small amounts of catalytic enzymes. When these chemicals mix they undergo a violent "exothermic" chemical reaction. The boiling, [200 degrees Fahrenheit] foul smelling liquid partially becomes a gas and is expelled with a loud popping sound."



14 Laments about Job's Infancy

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
1.	“Why did I not die at birth, come out from the womb and expire?”	Job 3:11
2.	“Why did the knees receive me?”	Job 3:12
3.	“why the breasts, that I should nurse?”	Job 3:12
4.	“For then I would have lain down and been quiet;	Job 3:13
5.	“I would have slept; then I would have been at rest”	Job 3:13
6.	“with kings and counselors of the earth who rebuilt ruins for themselves, or with princes who had gold, who filled their houses with silver.”	Job 3:14-15

14 Laments About Job's Infancy

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
7.	“Or why was I not as a hidden stillborn child, as infants who never see the light?”	Job 3:16
8.	“There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary are at rest. “There the prisoners are at ease together; they hear not the voice of the taskmaster. The small and the great are there, and the slave is free from his master.”	Job:17-19

14 Laments about Job's Infancy

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
9.	“Why is light given to him who is in misery...”	Job 3:20
10.	“and life to the bitter in soul,”	Job 3:20
11.	“who long for death, but it comes not,”	Job 3:21
12.	“For then I would have lain down and been quiet;	Job 3:21
13.	“who rejoice exceedingly”	Job 3:22
14.	“and are glad when they find the grave?”	Job 3:22

Job Longs For Sheol

Luke
16:19-31

Abraham's Bosom also known as
Paradise and God's Presence.

The Righteous Abode
Awaiting Heaven For Eternity

Hades, Hell, Perdition,
Gehenna
The Unrighteous Abode

Awaiting The Lake Of Fire For Eternity

“Job saw Sheol as a shadowy place where small and great rest together, away from the burdens and sufferings of life on earth”-Wiersbe

8 Laments about Job's Adulthood

<u>Number</u>	<u>Curse</u>	<u>Reference</u>
1.	“Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden,”	Job 3:23
2.	“whom God has hedged in?”	Job 3:23
3.	“For my sighing comes instead of my bread,”	Job 3:24
4.	“and my groanings are poured out like water.”	Job 3:24
5.	“For the thing that I fear comes upon me,”	Job 3:25
6.	“and what I dread befalls me.”	Job 3:25
7.	“I am not at ease, nor am I quiet;”	Job 3:26
8.	“I have no rest, but trouble comes.”	Job 3:26

“As Satan invaded Job’s life and brought great harm, God had built another hedge around Job’s life. But this hedge is to keep Job from escaping his trials. He is now locked in. Instead of a wall of protection to keep Satan out, now there is a wall of affliction that keeps Job in.”-Lawson

Job Had Forgot His Previous Blessings

- The pain and suffering that Job is experiencing caused him to forget his previous blessings that he and his family had enjoyed.
- When we are in pain we tend towards saying and doing things that we regret later.
- If Job had never been born he would have never experienced being the greatest man in the east nor would he have experienced the joy of his children.
- Pain causes us to forget the good times the Lord has blessed us with and has a tendency to cause us to focus on the pain itself and our perceived hopelessness of the future.

Fear and Dread

- Adam Clarke, the great British theologian at the beginning of the 19th century speaking for Job says, “While I was in prosperity I thought adversity might come, and I had a dread of it. I feared the loss of my family and my property; and both have occurred. I was not lifted up: I knew that what I possessed I had from divine Providence, and that he who gave might take away. I am not stripped of my all as a punishment for my self-confidence.”-Clarke

- Dread according to Webster, “Exciting great fear ...an uneasiness or alarm excited by expected pain and loss or other evil.”
- Fear and Dread are a sources of emotional thought patterns that affect our mood and well-being over possible losses that end up disturbing our peace of mind.
- There are many things in this world that excite “great fear” because this world is temporary causing loss and death.

- “The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?...I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!”-Psalm 27:1,13-14
- “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”-John 16:33

Give Thanks

- “give thanks **in** all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” **-1 Timothy 5:18**
- Notice it doesn’t say “give thanks **for** all circumstances” but “give thanks **in** all circumstances”.
- Being thankful “**in**” all things speaks toward a state of gratitude affecting our attitude towards God despite of the circumstance.
- Being thankful “**for**” all things or the trouble itself would be discouraging, but we can be thankful “**in**” troubling times because of Who God is and His benefits.

- Also during difficult moments in life we should not expect ourselves to feel thankful.
- “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”-**Hebrews 11:1**
- Faith is the assurance in the character of Who God is and the conviction that He is more than able to perform what He has promised in His word.
- Through faith we can convince our minds that God is good and that He knows what He is doing in the midst of our troubling circumstance.

- Faith submits to his guiding and sovereign hand, giving thanks in troubling circumstances, trusting that God is "working all things together for good" for those who love Him and "who are called according His purpose". (**Romans. 8:28**)
- When faith and God's promises are married together through holy matrimony their first born child is gratitude.