

"Now Mine Eyes Seeth Thee"

Lesson 3

Job's First Speech: Cursing Everything About His Life Job 3

Introduction

Job's world has just crashed all around him. As far as he is concerned, no longer is he "the greatest of all the men of the east" (1:3). All that was positive about his life has become a series of negatives. In short, Job now subscribes to the philosophy that is all too common today: "What is so good about life anyway?", or "There is nothing good about my life."

In his words recorded in **ch. 3**, we gain a glimpse of how Job feels, and these feelings will be played out through the remainder of the book. Perhaps through the 7-day silence after the arrival of his friends (**cp. 2:13**), Job sensed some suspicion on their part regarding his plight. Therefore, these words could be viewed as Job's initial reaction to what he perceived they would say to him.

1. What was Job's first reaction? (**v. 1**) What do you think Job means by wanting the day of his birth to be accursed? (**cp. vv. 3-4**)
2. How had Job lived most of his life? (**cp. 1:3; 2:10**) Yet, how does he act now? How does this help us understand Paul's point in **2 Cor. 4:16-18**?
3. How does Job further describe his desires for the day of his birth? (**vv. 5-10**) How would you characterize Job's faith at this point?
4. Since Job couldn't undo his birth, what desire does he express next in his lament? (**vv. 11-12**) What conclusions does Job determine from this desire? (**vv. 13-19**)
5. What final major question does Job raise in his lament? (**vv. 20-26**) According to Job, what was God doing to him? (**v. 23**) How did all these afflictions affect him? (**vv. 24-26**) *Thought question*: do you see this as a criticism against God?
6. Comparing **ch. 3** to **chs. 1-2**, how would you describe Job's faith now?