

# Job Part 3 HANDOUT

8.6.23

**JOB 3:1** After this, Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth.

- Job takes a turn - almost hard to read.
- Job is cursing the day of his birth.
- Job's posture toward his own pain and circumstances is extreme distress.

This next section shows Job's lament:

**JOB 3:11** "Why did I not perish at birth, and die as I came from the womb?"

**JOB 3:16-17** Or why was I not hidden away in the ground like a stillborn child, like an infant who never saw the light of day?

17 There the wicked cease from turmoil, and there the weary are at rest.

- Job is expressing the thought that death is the only way for him to have rest and peace.
- To lament is to express deep sorrow, grief, or regret.
  - We see this throughout The psalms of lament - the largest category of psalms, making up about one third of the entire book of Psalms.

**JOB 3:20-22** "Why is light given to those in misery, and life to the bitter of soul, 21 to those who long for death that does not come, who search for it more than for hidden treasure, 22 who are filled with gladness and rejoice when they reach the grave?"

**JOB 3:25** What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me.

Job is the most righteous man on earth. All the pain and suffering is making him spiral down. Wishing for death.

**KEY:** Faith and despair are not incompatible.

I can have faith in God and yet feel the crushing weight of trials that cause me to feel broken.

**2 CORINTHIANS 1:8** We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself.

Faith and despair are not incompatible.

In times of pain, *sometimes all we can see are the things that hurt us.*

God promises that “in this world, we will have trouble” or suffering.

**HEBREWS 4:15-16** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

**POINT:** In the midst of your greatest pain, God can give you the strength to look at the bigger picture.