

# Job 10 - Job's Reply (Cont'd); Job Prays for Answers

## II. Dialogue (Job 3:1–42:6)

- (2) First dialogue cycle (Job 4:1–14:22)
  - (B) Job's exchange with Bildad (Job 8:1–10:22)
    - (b) Job's reply (Job 9:1–10:22)
      - (iv) Because of his innocence, Job accuses God of oppressing the righteous and blessing the wicked (10:1-17)
      - (v) Job laments his birth (10:18-22)

### Job 10

(iv) Because of his innocence, Job accuses God of oppressing the righteous and blessing the wicked (10:1-17)

1 "I am disgusted with my own life; I will express my complaint freely; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

1 "I loathe my own life; I will give full vent to my complaint; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

1 "I am disgusted with living, so I'm going to talk about my complaint freely. I'll speak out from the bitterness of my soul.

1 My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.

2 "I will say to God, 'Do not condemn me; Let me know why You contend with me.

2 "I will say to God, 'Do not condemn me; Let me know why You contend with me.

2 I'll say to God, 'Don't condemn me! Let me know why you are fighting me.

2 I will say unto God, Do not condemn me; shew me wherefore thou contendest with me.

3 'Is it right for You indeed to oppress, To reject the work of Your hands, And to look favorably on the plan of the wicked?

3 'Is it right for You indeed to oppress, To reject the labor of Your hands, And to look favorably on the schemes of the wicked?

3 Does it delight you to oppress or despise what you have made, while you smile at the plans of the wicked?

3 Is it good unto thee that thou shouldest oppress, that thou shouldest despise the work of thine hands, and shine upon the counsel of the wicked?

4 'Do You have eyes of flesh? Or do You see as mankind sees?

4 'Have You eyes of flesh? Or do You see as a man sees?

4 Do you have eyes made of flesh? Can you look at things as humans do?

4 Hast thou eyes of flesh? or seest thou as man seeth?

5 'Are Your days like the days of a mortal, Or Your years like a man's year,

5 'Are Your days as the days of a mortal, Or Your years as man's years,

5 Can you live only as long as a human being? Or live the years of a mortal man?

5 Are thy days as the days of man? are thy years as man's days,

6 That You should search for my guilt And carefully seek my sin?

6 That You should seek for my guilt And search after my sin?

6 "For you seek out my iniquity and search for my sin.

6 That thou enquirest after mine iniquity, and searchest after my sin?

7 'According to Your knowledge I am indeed not guilty, Yet there is no one to save *me* from Your hand.

7 'According to Your knowledge I am indeed not guilty, Yet there is no deliverance from Your hand.

7 Although you know that I'm not guilty, there's no one to deliver me from you!

7 Thou knowest that I am not wicked; and there is none that can deliver out of thine hand.

8 'Your hands fashioned and made me altogether, Yet would You destroy me?

8 'Your hands fashioned and made me altogether, And would You destroy me?

8 Your hands formed and fashioned me, but then you have destroyed me all at once on all sides.

8 Thine hands have made me and fashioned me together round about; yet thou dost destroy me.

9 'Remember that You have made me as clay; Yet would You turn me into dust again?

9 'Remember now, that You have made me as clay; And would You turn me into dust again?

9 "Please remember that you've made me like clay and you'll return me to dust.

9 Remember, I beseech thee, that thou hast made me as the clay; and wilt thou bring me into dust again?

10 'Did You not pour me out like milk, And curdle me like cheese,  
10 'Did You not pour me out like milk And curdle me like cheese;  
10 Didn't you pour me out like milk and let me congeal like cheese?  
10 Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese?

11 Clothe me with skin and flesh, And intertwine me with bones and tendons?  
11 Clothe me with skin and flesh, And knit me together with bones and sinews?  
11 You covered me with skin and flesh, weaving me together with bones and sinews.  
11 Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews.

12 'You have granted me life and goodness; And Your care has guarded my spirit.  
12 'You have granted me life and lovingkindness; And Your care has preserved my spirit.  
12 You gave life and gracious love to me; your providential care has preserved my spirit.  
12 Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit.

13 'Yet You have concealed these things in Your heart; I know that this is within You:  
13 'Yet these things You have concealed in Your heart; I know that this is within You:  
13 But you've hidden these things in your heart— I know this was your purpose:  
13 And these things hast thou hid in thine heart: I know that this is with thee.

14 If I have sinned, You will take note of me, And will not acquit me of my guilt.  
14 If I sin, then You would take note of me, And would not acquit me of my guilt.  
14 If I sin, you watch me and won't acquit me for my iniquity.  
14 If I sin, then thou markest me, and thou wilt not acquit me from mine iniquity.

15 'If I am wicked, woe to me! But if I am righteous, I dare not lift up my head. I am full of shame, and conscious of my misery.  
15 'If I am wicked, woe to me! And if I am righteous, I dare not lift up my head. I am sated with disgrace and conscious of my misery.  
15 "Woe to me if I'm guilty! If I'm innocent, I cannot lift my head, because I am filled with disgrace. Look at my affliction!  
15 If I be wicked, woe unto me; and if I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. I am full of confusion; therefore see thou mine affliction;

16 'And should my head be high, You would hunt me like a lion; And You would show Your power against me again.

16 'Should my head be lifted up, You would hunt me like a lion; And again You would show Your power against me.

16 But if I do lift up my head, you will hunt me like a lion! You will perform miracles in order to fight against me.

16 For it increaseth. Thou hunttest me as a fierce lion: and again thou shewest thyself marvellous upon me.

17 'You renew Your witnesses against me And increase Your anger toward me; Hardship after hardship is with me.

17 'You renew Your witnesses against me And increase Your anger toward me; Hardship after hardship is with me.

17 "You have brought new witnesses against me, you're even more angry with me— you've brought fresh troops to attack me!

17 Thou renewest thy witnesses against me, and increasest thine indignation upon me; changes and war are against me.

(v) Job laments his birth (10:18-22)

18 'Why then did You bring me out of the womb? If only I had died and no eye had seen me!

18 'Why then have You brought me out of the womb? Would that I had died and no eye had seen me!

18 So why did you bring me out from the womb? I wish I had died, before anyone had seen me,

18 Wherefore then hast thou brought me forth out of the womb? Oh that I had given up the ghost, and no eye had seen me!

19 'I should have been as though I had not been, Brought from womb to tomb.'

19 'I should have been as though I had not been, Carried from womb to tomb.'

19 as if I had never existed; carried from the womb to the grave.

19 I should have been as though I had not been; I should have been carried from the womb to the grave.

20 "Would He not leave my few days alone? Withdraw from me so that I may have a little cheerfulness

20 "Would He not let my few days alone? Withdraw from me that I may have a little cheer

20 My days are so few, aren't they? So leave me alone, then, so I can smile a little

20 Are not my days few? cease then, and let me alone, that I may take comfort a little,

21 Before I go—and I shall not return— To the land of darkness and deep shadow,  
21 Before I go—and I shall not return— To the land of darkness and deep shadow,  
21 before I go, never to return, leaving for the land of deep darkness and shadow.  
21 Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of  
death;

22 The land of utter gloom like darkness *itself*, Of deep shadow without order, And it  
shines like darkness."

22 The land of utter gloom as darkness *itself*, Of deep shadow without order, And which  
shines as the darkness."

22 It's a gloomy land, like deepest darkness; where there's no order, and where even the  
brightness is like darkness."

22 A land of darkness, as darkness itself; and of the shadow of death, without any order,  
and where the light is as darkness.