

Pick up the Pieces & Start Over

Job's Despair with Life and
Disappointment with God's Ways
(7:1-21)

Job's Despair with Life

1. Job sees life as hard work

- **Job 7:1**, “Does not man have hard service on earth? Are not his days like those of a hired man?”
- **Job 7:2**, “Like a slave longing for the evening shadows, or a hired man waiting eagerly for his wages”

Job's Despair with Life

2. Job sees life as having no relief

- **Job 7:3-4**, “³ so I have been allotted months of futility, and nights of misery have been assigned to me. ⁴ When I lie down I think, 'How long before I get up?' The night drags on, and I toss till dawn.”
- **Job 7:5**, “My body is clothed with worms and scabs, my skin is broken and festering.”

Job's Despair with Life

3. Job sees life as brief and hopeless

- **Job 7:6**, “My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle...”
- **Job 7:6**, “...and they come to an end without hope”

3. Job sees life as brief and hopeless

- **Because of circumstances**

- **Because of loss of happiness**

Job 7:7, “Remember, O God, that my life is but a breath; my eyes will never see happiness again.”

3. Job sees life as brief and hopeless

➤ **Because of the brevity of life**

Job 7:7-9, “⁷ Remember, O God, that my life is but a breath ⁸
The eye that now sees me will see me no longer; you will look
for me, but I will be no more. ⁹ As a cloud vanishes and is
gone, so he who goes down to the grave does not return.”

Job 7:10, “He will never come to his house again; his place will
know him no more.”

John 11:25, “Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the
life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies”

Job's Disillusionment with God's Ways

Job 7:11, "Therefore I will not keep silent; I will speak out in the anguish of my spirit, I will complain in the bitterness of my soul."

Job's Disillusionment with God's Ways

1. God is like a prison guard

Job 7:12, “Am I the sea, or the monster of the deep, that you put me under guard?”

Job 7:13-16, “¹³ When I think my bed will comfort me and my couch will ease my complaint, ¹⁴ even then you frighten me with dreams and terrify me with visions, ¹⁵ so that I prefer strangling and death, rather than this body of mine. ¹⁶ I despise my life; I would not live forever. Let me alone; my days have no meaning.”

2 Corinthians 4:17, “For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”

Job's Disillusionment with God's Ways

2. God is like one who obsessed

Job 7:17-19, “What is man that you make so much of him, that you give him so much attention”

Job 7:18, “that you examine him every morning and test him every moment?”

Job 7:19, “Will you never look away from me, or let me alone even for an instant?”

Job's Disillusionment with God's Ways

3. God is like one who never forgives

Job 7:20-21, “²⁰ If I have sinned, what have I done to you, O watcher of men? Why have you made me your target? Have I become a burden to you? ²¹ Why do you not pardon my offenses and forgive my sins?...”

Psalm 86:5, “You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you.”

Job 7:21, “...For I will soon lie down in the dust; you will search for me, but I will be no more.”

1 Peter 4:19 (MSG)

¹⁹ So if you find life difficult because you're doing what God said, take it in stride. Trust him. He knows what he's doing, and he'll keep on doing it.

1 Peter 4:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.