



# The Gospel According to Job

January 11: Job Laments: Job 3

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Who are Job's first three friends? What do we know about them?

**Job 32:6** And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said: "I am young in years, and you are aged; therefore I was timid and afraid to declare my opinion to you."

What is the purpose of a lament?

Why is Job's poetry so difficult?

TLSB Outline: Dialogue between Job and His Three Friends (chs 3-31)

1. Job's Opening Lament (ch 3)
2. First Cycle (chs 4-14)
3. Second Cycle (chs 15-21)
4. Third Cycle (chs 22-26)
5. Job's Monologue (chs 27-31)

## Job 3:1-10

What grammatical style does Job's lament take? Why does Job curse the day of his birth?

**Jeremiah 20:14 & 18** Cursed be the day on which I was born! The day when my mother bore me, let it not be blessed! Why did I come out from the womb to see toil and sorrow, and spend my days in shame?

Is Job in a different place emotionally and spiritually than we heard in chapters 1-2?

How does this passage relate to the creation account in Genesis 1-2?

What is the rousing of Leviathan?

**Psalms 74:13-14** You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters. You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.

## Job 3: 11-16

What grammatical style does Job's lament take now?

What insights does Job give us about the afterlife?

Job 30:23 For I know that you will bring me to death and to the house appointed for all living.

## Job 3:17-19

What further insights does Job give of the afterlife?

Isaiah 42:6-7 I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

## Job 3:20-23

What is Job's fundamental question at this point in his lament?

Is that a helpful question?

Job says that God has *hedged* him in. When did we hear that word before?

## Job 3:24-26

What did Job fear?

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

What do you make of Job's perspective so far?

What would you say to Job?