

**THE BOOK OF JOB**  
**Our Allotted Time**  
**Text: Job 7:1-10**

**Key Word:** Time

**Key Thought:** How Should We Approach Our Allotted Time of Life

I'm sure we've all heard the term **"time is of the essence."** It is often used in legal documents when there is a time period that must be met without any opportunity for an extension. This portion in the Book of Job brings out the contradiction that often occurs in our life. We seem to struggle with God's timing of the events He plans for our life. Some days seem too long while others seem to be cut short.

Welcome to the struggles of life. We all face these times and often our questions remain without ever being answered. Perhaps that is meant by the expression **"that's life."**

**How Did Job Feel Toward the Days of His Life?**

**I. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO LONG (Job 7:1-5)**

**II. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO SHORT (Job 7:6-10)**

**I. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO LONG (Job 7:1-5)**

Job begins by expressing his concern that the length of each day seemed to be too long. That is common when we are experiencing high levels of pain. One writer explains that it is comparable to **war service**. He also compares it to **the way a hireling feels**. They want to be reimbursed for their time but they don't want to put in the hours required. They also avoid dangerous and hard work.

Doesn't your body tell you it doesn't like the springtime when we turn our clocks ahead one hour and wait for the sun to set? We need to be patient in times of hardship and also be prepared for trials and suffering.

*"Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus."*

*II Timothy 2:3*

*"To live is to suffer, to survive is to find some meaning in the suffering."*

**Friedrich Nietzsche**  
A German (Prussia) philosopher (had multiple health problems)

## I. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO LONG (Job 7:1-5) (Contd.)

Most young people want to live a long life while many older people look forward to going home (as a Christian). The apostle Paul (at age 62) looked forward to his upcoming death as a martyr for Christ.

*“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

*8. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”*

*II Timothy 4:7,8*

### A World That Cannot Satisfy

\*\*\* Gregg Easterbrook wrote about this in a 2003 book called **“The Progress Paradox.”** Easterbrook’s subtitle was **“How Life Gets Better While People Feel Worse.”** He describes how affluent we have become — better food, better healthcare, better education, better communication, better climate control, better entertainment, better transportation — all of that.

Yet, when sociologists do their surveys, and people in America indicate where they fall on the satisfaction scale, they are only “slightly satisfied.” Easterbrook has many explanations for this paradox — **a condition some have termed affluenza** — but the fundamental problem is that this fallen world cannot satisfy anyone.

What we really need, and what we are really looking for, whether we know it or not, is a relationship with the living God. David expressed it well when he said, *“My soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.”* (Psalm 63:1) \*\*\*

Taken from Phillip Graham Ryken in *“Coming Home”*  
edited by D.A. Carson, © 2017, p.131.

UBP of Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers,  
Wheaton, IL 60187, [www.crossway.org](http://www.crossway.org).

The problem some of us have is that darkened days seem to overtake the light at the end of the tunnel. Job couldn’t see what God had prepared for him at this juncture of his journey.

## I. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO LONG (Job 7:1-5) (Contd.)

*“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 and turn until dawn.”*

*Job 7:3,4*

“Well I made it through the day without having to beat anyone to death, I’d say my people skills are improving.”

Tasmanian Devil

## II. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO SHORT (Job 7:6-10)

Job seems to switch his thinking 180 degrees in the next five verses. It may appear baffling to read these verses in sequence. But take a moment and think about the reversal of thoughts in your own life! Doesn’t it appear like you’ve been here before? Do your days change like the tides of an ocean?

Job had no idea at this time in his life that he would live **another 140 years** which was the average age at the time before dying (Job 42:16). Scholars believe he was not more than 70 years of age at this time of his life. He described his life as “bnt a breath.” (Job 7:7)

Our Scriptures describe life as a flower, a vapour, a dream, a watch in the night, a tale that has been told and in Job’s words like a weaver’s shuttle that passes back and forth quickly.

“No clock strikes in hell. To say, Thank God, another hour is past.  
One gigantic clock there without a dial-plate; its pendulum eternally vibrating, **Ever, Never; Damnation ever, Redemption never.**”

Friedrich Wilhelm Krummacker  
a noted German Theologian  
born in Moers, France (now Germany),  
died in Potsdam, Prussia (now Germany)

*“The eye that now sees me will see me no longer; you will look for me, but I will be no more.”*

*Job 7:8*

## II. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO SHORT (Job 7:6-10) (Contd.)

*“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, Neither have entered into the heart of man, The things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”*

*I Corinthians 2:9 KJV  
from Isaiah 64:4*

It's because of our Lord's sacrificial (vicarious - done for another) death that we as Christians can look in anticipation to an eternal reward in heaven. Time will be no more. That fact about heaven will most likely never come to our minds. The shortness of time will be consumed by everlasting life.

\*\*\* Thinking of the fullness and duration of this wonderful life, W. B. Hinson, a great preacher of a past generation, spoke from his own experience just before he died. He said, *"I remember a year ago when a doctor told me, 'You have an illness from which you won't recover.'* I walked out to where I live 5 miles from Portland, Oregon, and I looked across at that mountain that I love. I looked at the river in which I rejoice, and I looked at the stately trees that are always God's own poetry to my soul.

Then in the evening I looked up into the great sky where God was lighting His lamps, and I said, *'I may not see you many more times, but Mountain, I shall be alive when you are gone; and River, I shall be alive when you cease running toward the sea; and Stars, I shall be alive when you have fallen from your sockets in the great down pulling of the material universe!'* " \*\*\*

W. B. Hinson

Even though the Scriptures tell us to choose life over death, we must surrender the final decision to God. Job even made it clear to Zophar the Naamathite.

*“Man's days are determined; you (God) have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed”*

*Job 14:5*

## II. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO SHORT (Job 7:6-10) (Contd.)

*“Show me, Lord, my life’s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is.  
5. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you.  
Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.”*

*Psalm 39:4-5*

The Bible allows for prayers of the afflicted to question the length of their living days

*“In the course of my life he broke my strength; he cut short my days.  
24 So I said: “Do not take me away, my God, in the midst of my days; your years go on through all generations.”*

*Psalm 102:23-24*

God in His mercy, grace, love and wisdom wants us to consider our allotted time on earth. By doing so we are more likely to use our limited time wisely. I’ve heard of many people who wished they had use their time differently and regretted how they wasted it on pleasures of life that lost their value while their life was fading away on their death bed.

Are you pleased with what you’ve done with your allotted time so far? Is there something you need to change on your final lap of life? Remember none of us is guaranteed that we will be alive tomorrow or even today. Don’t ever put off the call of God to surrender you life to Him! Today is the day of salvation.

If the root of your essence tells you to wait, you are listening to the wrong voice. Eternity matters! One of the greatest weapons the devil uses is delaying and procrastinating. Value your time and make eternally wise decisions from this day on.

C:\WPWin(2021)\Sermons.23\The Book of Job\Job 7\_1.10.wpd

Date: April 16/23

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: In Your Hands - F or G

**THE BOOK OF JOB**  
**Our Allotted Time**  
**Text: Job 7:1-10**

**Key Word:** Time

**Key Thought:** How Should We Approach Our Allotted Time of Life

**How Did Job Feel Toward the Days of His Life?**

**I. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO LONG (Job 7:1-5)**

*II Timothy 2:3; II Timothy 4:7,8; Psalm 63:1; Job 7:3,4*

*“To live is to suffer, to survive is to find some meaning in the suffering.”*

Friedrich Nietzsche

A German (Prussia) philosopher (had multiple health problems)

**II. DAYS CAN APPEAR TOO SHORT (Job 7:6-10)**

*Job 42:16; Job 7:7; Job 7:8; I Corinthians 2:9 KJV (from Isaiah 64:4); Job 14:5; Psalm 39:4-5; Psalm 102:23-24*