

THOSE FOR WHOM IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER NOT TO
HAVE BEEN BORN Text: Job 3:1, 11

INTRO: In our text Job expresses the viewpoint that it would have been better if he had not been born. Jeremiah expresses a similar thot in Jer 20:14. Perhaps most of us have at some time expressed such feelings. Let it be noted that for Job & Jeremiah, such thots were incorrect. Both of those Godly men became blessings to themselves & to others. But there are indeed some who would have been better off not to have been born.

I. THE TRAITOR WHO SELLS HIS LORD WOULD BE BETTER
OFF NOT TO HAVE BEEN BORN.

The Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born. (MT 26:24).

NOTE: Judas betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, the price of a wounded slave. But many of His disciples since that time have sold Him out for less. Money, pleasure, power, fame, an hour in the spotlight.

II. THOSE WHO REJECT CHRIST & HIS GOSPEL WOULD BE
BETTER OFF NOT BEING BORN.

READ MATTHEW 11:20-24

III. THE APOSTATE WHO RENOUNCES THE LORD WOULD
BE BETTER OFF NOT TO HAVE BEEN BORN.

A. We need to note the difference between the backslider & the apostate. The backslider needs to be restored.
James 5:19-20; Gal. 6:1

B. But the Bible speaks of some who apostatize--fall so far away that it is impossible to renew them to repentance.
Heb. 6:4-6 READ 2 PETER 2:20-22

IV. THE MAN OR WOMAN WHOSE BEHAVIOR CAUSES OTHERS TO STUMBLE WOULD BE BETTER OFF DEAD.

But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck & that he be drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of its stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come; but woe to that man thru whom the stumbling block comes! (MT 18:6-7 NASB).

READ I CORINTHIANS 8:9-13

V. THE HYPOCRITES WHO WILL NOT PRACTICE PURE RELIGION THEMSELVES, & WHO LIVE SO AS TO MAKE IT DISTASTEFUL TO OTHERS WOULD BE BETTER OFF NOT TO HAVE BEEN BORN.

READ MATTHEW 23:13-15, 33

CONCLUSION: Perhaps you, like Job & Jeremiah, have sometimes reasoned that it would have been better not to have been born. But the fact is, you were born, & you may as well make the best of it. Live so as to be a blessing to yourself & to others. The world will be a better place because you were here--& you will be headed for a better place when this life is over.

La Porte, TX, August 24, 1980

Exton, PA, September 10, 1989

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, October 27, 1996