



DISCIPLE

Desire Determination Discipline Diligence Delight Doer

Course: A Survey of the Bible: Genesis to Revelation

Lesson: 20_6 - **Dealing with the Unknown (Part 1)**

Passage: Job 4-12

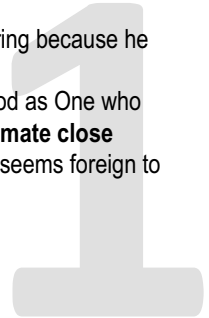
For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

(Romans 15:4)

ROUND #1

Eliphaz's Speaks: The Innocent Prosper (4:1-5:27)

- (4:1-5) Eliphaz assumes that Job has counseled others and now it was Job's turn to put into practice what he taught others. But did Eliphaz ever hear Job counsel others in sufferings.
- (4:6-7) Eliphaz's authority: Experience. What we observe may not be truth. Our observations are severely limited. This is the danger of listening to polls! The righteous live by FAITH - NOT sight. (Habakkuk 2:4; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 10:38)
- (4:12-21) Eliphaz's authority: Mysticism (see vv. 12-16)
- (Job 4:8-27) Eliphaz's advice to Job:
 - ① Seek God (vv. 8-16)
 - ② Do not despise God's discipline (vv. 17-27)
- Faults in Eliphaz's speech.
 - ① It did not apply to Job's situation. Job was not suffering because he sinned!
 - ② Eliphaz spoke highly of God but it seems he sees God as One who brings only physical or material blessings. **An intimate close fellowship** between the Creator and His creature seems foreign to Eliphaz.

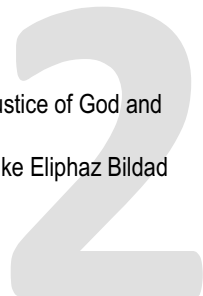


Job's Response to Eliphaz (6:1-7:21)

- (vv. 1-3) Eliphaz called Job "foolish" (5:2). Eliphaz and his two friends could not **feel** the weight of Job's suffering. Job did not have a full revelation of God - WE DO! See **2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Romans 8:17-18**.
- Job felt like a "target" and God Almighty was shooting His poisonous arrows unto him.
- (6:7) Job called Eliphaz's words "loathsome food!" (v. 7)
- (Job 6:8-13) All seems **HOPELESS** to Job. He sees no future as his suffering gets worse and worse. He feels **USELESS**.
 - ★ This is written not that we would feel sorry for Job but that we would **LEARN**. (Romans 15:4)
- (Job 6:14-30) Job confronts Eliphaz. To those who are suffering we must be careful to show kindness and not to add to one's suffering.
 - (vv. 15-23) Job likens his friends to a deceitful brook (stream).
 - (vv. 24-30) Eliphaz had spoken in generalities - accusing Job of sin. Here Job demands Eliphaz be specific - **WHAT SIN?**
 - A man cannot repent unless he knows his sin!
- (Job 7:1-10) Job pleads with God.
 - (vv. 1-3) Job likens his life to that of a soldier in hard service (war), of a hired man who eagerly awaits his wages, and a servant waiting for the sun to go down so that he can rest.
 - (v. 3) Job sees hopelessness – he is a soldier in war – he has not chance of getting out and enjoying peace; he feels like a hired man who does not get paid; and a servant who has no rest!
 - ★ "I have been appointed **months** of futility" (uselessness; vanity).
 - **NOTE** the word **months** – apparently Job had been suffering for months before his friends came to visit.
 - (vv. 4-5) Job describes his horrible condition.
- (Job 7:11-21) Job's frustration with God. Job feels that God will not let him alone even in the night!
 - (7:20) Job asks God, "What have I done to You?"
 - (7:20) Job seeks **PARDON**. Job knows that forgiveness can only come in this life time. There is no chance for forgiveness in the grave.

Bildad Speaks: Job Should Repent (Job 8:1-22) (9)

- Bildad presents three arguments:
 - ❶ (Job 8:1-7) The character of God. He points to the justice of God and again saying that Job is suffering because of sin.
 - If Job will repent God will bless him. And just like Eliphaz Bildad was only interested in physical blessings.



- ② (Job 8:8-10) Wisdom from the Past. Tradition is his authority.
 - 21st Century saints have the Word of God as their FINAL AUTHORITY.
 - Students of theology know that great men have disagreed throughout the ages BUT we are to seek wisdom from God's Word as one seeking buried treasure. (Proverb 2:1-9; 3:1-15; 7:4, 8; 9:10)
 - READ Matthew 15:1-9 where Christ confronted the traditions of the Pharisees.
- ③ (Job 8:11-20) The Evidence in Nature: papyrus without water; a spider web; a garden.
- (Job 8:21-22) Prosperity promised again.

Job's Response to Bildad (9:1-10:22)

- In Job 9 and 10 Job uses courtroom terms. He is pleading, "I want my day in court!"
- Three Questions in Job 9 and 10
 - ① "How can I be righteous before God?" (9:1-13)
 - No one can contend with the Almighty - the CREATOR.
 - ② "How can I meet God in court?" (9:14-35)
 - There is no "daysman" - (mediator; arbitrager).
 - ★ WE HAVE ONE! (1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 2:1-2)
 - ③ "Why was I born?" (10:1-22)
 - (10:1-3) "I am the work of Your hands!" (Isaiah 64:8; 29:16; Romans 9:21-22; 2 Timothy 2:20-21; **ACTS 9:15-16** - δεῖ [dei {die}]) - "must"; "necessity"; "God's will" - see John 4:1.
 - (10:3) Does it seem good to You? - The answer is **YES!** (Consider Matthew 11:26; 1 Samuel 3:18; 2 Samuel 10:12; 1 Chronicles 19:13)
 - (10:13-17) "If I am guilty then I deserve this!!" Three "if's" - vv. 14, 15, 16.
 - (10:18-22) Why, then, did you create me?
 - (10:18) Answer: Everything God does He does for His glory!
 - (10:20) Job commands God to leave him alone. Everything **seems** a waste! BUT God knows exactly what He is doing!!
 - We need to learn to be **silent** before the LORD. (Zech 2:13; Habbakuk 2:20; Psalm 46:10)
 - The LORD is on His throne in heaven and has everything under control. (Psalm 11:4; 103:19)

Zophar's Attack: You Deserve Worse (Job 11:1-20) (12)

- Youngest and most harsh.
- Zophar's three accusations:
 - ❶ Job is a LIAR. (Job 11:1-4)
 - ❷ Job is IGNORANT of God. (Job 11:5-12)
 - (11:5) BUT GOD will speak starting Job 38:1 - but it will be Zophar and his friends who will be rebuked!
 - (11:6) This is a **TRUTH** that we need to be constantly reminded of - see Psalm 103:10; Ezra 9:13; Nehemiah 9:31; Lamentations 3:22; Daniel 9:18-19.
 - (11:10-11) Zophar's words are true but his premise is wrong. God does **as He pleases** because He is God. (Daniel 4:35; Job 23:13; Isaiah 14:24-27)
 - ❸ Job is STUBBORN and STIFF-NECKED. (Job 11:13-30)
 - (11:13-19) Only if Job would compromise his integrity and submit to the corrupt theology of his three friends then he will be lifted up!
 - Zophar's definition of REPENTANCE is a good one:
 - **HEART**: In Hebrew thought the **heart** is the **mind, the intelligence, and understanding**. It also includes the **emotions and will**. In Hebrew thought there is no difference in HEAD and HEART.
 - **STRETCH OUT YOUR HANDS**: Once the mind is convinced of sin then one stretches one's hands toward GOD in prayer.
 - **PUTTING SIN OFF SIN**: (v. 14) Once the mind is convinced of sin and sin is confessed to God (agreeing with God), then the **WILL** must be engaged to **STOP the sin**.

Job's Response to Zophar (Job 12:1-25)

- (Job 12:1-6) Job rebukes all three men for their so-called wisdom. It is easy when we are "comfortable" to give advice to those who are suffering!! His three friends told him he was suffering because of his sins BUT what about robbers who prosper and those who provoke God live secure lives - see Psalm 73; Jeremiah 12:1-6; Job 21:1ff.
- (Job 12:7-12) Job turns to creation! Who has done all these things? **GOD! == in whose hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind?** (See Matthew 10:29)
 - (12:12-13) Wisdom is with aged men but we are to test all things. See Job 32:7. Wisdom comes from GOD!
- (Job 12:13-25) God's Wisdom and Power!
 - ★ **THIS PASSAGE OUGHT TO BE HIGH-LIGHTED IN YOUR BIBLES!**

