

The Book of Job
Conversations at the Garbage Dump: Round 2 (Eliphaz)
Job 15-17 (page 357)

Sunday, May 20, 2012

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When I am hurting there are times when others may:

- misread my attitude (Job 15:1-16)

- apply truth in a wrong way (Job 15:17-35)

When that happens, it may feel like everyone is against me (Job 16:1-17)

- including my friends (vs 1-5)

- and even God (vs 6-17)

In those times, I need a mediator, not a hit man (Job 16:18-17:2)

In those times, I need hope, not another hammer (Job 17:3-16)

Taking it home...

Have others ever misjudged you or your attitude? Have they given you advice that missed the mark? How did you respond?

What can you learn from these chapters about giving “*counsel*” to a friend (or anyone) who is distressed and hurting? What is *one thing* you would do and what is *one thing* you would not do?

How does the knowledge that we do have an Advocate in heaven change how we are to respond to calamity and difficulties in our lives? Does it change how you would respond? Explain?

An Overview of the Book of Job

The Character of Job (1:1-5)
The Calamities of Job (1:6-2:10)
The Comforters of Job (2:11-13)

Job's Complaint (3:1-26)

Dialogue/Dispute: Round 1
(4:14-14:22)

Eliphaz's speech (4-5)
 Job's response (6-7)
 Bildad's speech (8)
 Job's response (9-10)
 Zophar's speech (11)
 Job's response (12-14)

Dialogue/Dispute: Round 2
(15:1-21:34)

Eliphaz's second speech (15)
 Job's response (16-17)
 Bildad's second speech (18)
 Job's response (19)
 Zophar's second speech (20)
 Job's response (21)

Dialogue/Dispute: Round 3
(22:1-31:40)

Eliphaz's third speech (22)
 Job's reply (23-24)
 Bildad's third speech (25)
 Job's response (26-31)

Elihu's speeches (32-37)

God's Confrontation (38-42:6)

God's first speech (38:1-40:2)
 Job's response (40:3-5)
 God's second speech (40:6-41:34)
 Job's response (42:1-6)

Job and His Friends (42:7-17)

God vindicates Job (42:7-9)
 God restores Job's fortunes (42:10-17)

A Profile of Job's Four Friends

	Eliphaz	Bildad	Zophar	Elihu
Distinctive:	Theologian, Pragmatist	Historian, Legalist	Moralist, Dogmatist	Theological Intellectual
Relies on:	Experience	Tradition	Assumption	Education
Voice of:	Philosophy	History	Orthodoxy	Logic
Key Phrase:	"I have seen..."	"Ask the former generations..."	"Know this..."	"Listen to me..."
Argument:	"If you sin, you suffer..."	"You MUST be sinning since you suffer..."	"You ARE sinning since you suffer..."	"Suffering may be to PURIFY and INSTRUCT..."
Advice to Job:	"ONLY the wicked suffer"	"The wicked ALWAYS suffer"	"The wicked are SHORT-LIVED"	"HUMBLE yourself before God"
Meaning of Name:	"God dispenses"	"Contention"	"Rough" of "Chirper"	"He is my God"