

The Book of Job
Conversations at the Garbage Dump: Round 2 (Zophar)
Job 21-22 (page 360)

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There are some people who will see my resistance to their counsel as resistance to God (Job 20:1-29)

- They are offended by my reluctance to accept their conclusion (vs 1-3)
- Their conclusions are based on their own assumptions and moral ideals (vs 4-29)

Namely that those who hide sin:

- will not thrive (vs 4-11)
- enjoy only temporary pleasure (vs 12-19)
- will discover God's swift judgment (vs 20-29)

I can best respond by understanding the character of my critic and by:

- staying calm (Job 21:1-6)
- responding with true facts and accurate information (Job 21:7-34)

Namely that:

- Sinful people do thrive (vs 7-16)
- Sinful people don't always experience calamity (vs 17-21)
- Sinful people die just like everyone else (vs 22-34)

Taking it with me...

What are several things that we can do (learning from Job) to make sure that we respond appropriately and in a Christ-honoring way to those who accuse or misapply truth to our lives or situations? List and discuss. _____

Though we look at Zophar and think we would never speak to others as he does to Job, perhaps it would be wise for us to follow the example of the Psalmist and examine our own hearts as we pray through the words of *Psalm 139:23-24*. _____

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"