

The Book of Job
Conversations at the Garbage Dump: Round 3 (Eliphaz)
Job 22-24 (page 361)

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There will be people who wish to j u d g e my motives and s l a n d e r my character (Job 22:1-30)

They will falsely accuse me of

- living a s i n f u l and s e l f - c e n t e r e d life (22:1-11)
- trying to h i d e my s i n s from God (22:12-20)
- failing to r e p e n t and get r i g h t with God (22:21-30)

Rather than r e s p o n d to my critic and his slander, I can turn my f o c u s to God (Job 23:1-24:25)

I am faced with the questions of:

- W h e r e is God when He is so n e e d e d? (23:1-17)
 - I can't find your p r e s e n c e God but I trust Your p l a n (vs 1-12)
 - I don't u n d e r s t a n d Your plan, but I t r u s t You, Lord (vs 13-17)
- Why is God s i l e n t when He needs to s p e a k? (24:1-25)
 - I don't understand Your p e r m i s s i o n of wickedness, but I trust in Your j u s t i c e (vs 1-25)

Real Life Reflections...

Have you ever been in the place Job finds himself where God seems nowhere to be found? How did you respond? How would you respond after today? _____

Do you find it more difficult to trust (1) God's plans, (2) God's justice or (3) God Himself? Why? Which of the three would help you today to move forward in your walk of faith? _____

How are our trials and difficulties necessary to help us grow and develop as a follower of Jesus? Give a personal example of the benefit you gained from a challenging time in your life.

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"