



What's In It For Us?

Job 20-21

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • NOVEMBER 6, 2022

• All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

• God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.
• Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

A. Zophar: "The Awful End of the Wicked," Job 19

Zophar is next in line to speak, but he has nothing new to say. It's the same old story: God punishes the wicked, so Job is punished because he is wicked...he had better get right with God before it's too late.

– Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Patient*, p. 80.

1. I resent your rebuke. (vv. 1-3)

Job 20:3, NIV84 - ³ I hear a rebuke that dishonors me, and my understanding inspires me to reply.

2. There is only a brief joy for the wicked. (vv. 4-11)

Job 20:5, NIV84 - ⁵ ...the joy of the godless lasts but a moment.

3. There is only a brief pleasure for the wicked. (vv. 12-19)

Job 20:14, NCV - ¹⁴ But their food will turn sour in their stomachs, like the poison of a snake inside them.

4. There is only a brief life for the wicked. (vv. 23-29)

Job 20:22, NLT - ²² "In the midst of plenty, they will run into trouble and be overcome by misery.

B. Job: "The Actual End of the Wicked," Job 20

Job attacks Zophar's false assumption that the wicked are always punished for their sins in this life:

1. The wicked do prosper. (vv. 1-18)

Job 21:7-8, NLT - ⁷ "Why do the wicked prosper, growing old and powerful?" ⁸ They live to see their children grow up and settle down, and they enjoy their grandchildren.

2. Their children aren't punished. (vv. 19-21)

Job 21:19, NLT - ¹⁹ "Well,' you say, 'at least God will punish their children!' But I say he should punish the ones who sin....

3. Death comes to the 'good' and the 'bad.' (vv. 22-26)

Job 21:23-26, NLT - ²³ One person dies in prosperity, completely comfortable and secure, ²⁴ the picture of good health, vigorous and fit. ²⁵ Another person dies in bitter poverty, never having tasted the good life. ²⁶ But both are buried in the same dust, both eaten by the same maggots.

4. There is no guarantee for justice in this life. (vv. 27-34)

Job 21:30, NLT - ³⁰ Evil people are spared in times of calamity and are allowed to escape disaster.

C. Job: "What's in it for us?" (21:15, MSG)

A Very, Very, Very Short List

1. Pardon from sin. (1 Jn. 1:9, Acts 3:19, 2 Chron. 7:14, Acts 13:38, Col. 1:14, Is. 43:25)

2. Peace beyond understanding. (Phil. 4:7, Heb. 13:20, Rom. 15:33, Jn. 14:27)

3. His Presence in times of trouble. (Ps. 91:15-16, Is. 43:2-3, Heb. 13:5-6)

4. An eternal inheritance for the end of life. (Eph. 1:13-14, 1 Cor. 15:50-53)

5. A Redeemer that lives. (Ps. 19:14, Is. 44:22, Is. 47:4, Rom. 3:23-24, Job 19:25-27)

This chapter may be called Job's triumph over the insinuated calumnies, and specious but false doctrines, of his opponents. The irritability of his temper no longer appears: from the time he got that glorious discovery of his Redeemer, and the joyous hope of an eternal inheritance in Job 19:25ff...we find no more murmurings, nor unsanctified complainings. He is now full master of himself, and reasons conclusively, because he reasons coolly—acutely aware that his Redeemer Lives." - Adam Clarke, *Job—A Commentary and Critical Notes*, p. 102 (Circa 1827)