



Zophar's Three Accusations Against Job

Job 11

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• 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. Review and Introduction

1. Meet Zophar the Naamathite: Naamah was a town assigned to Judah in Joshua 15:41. "Zophar" typically means *lovely*—but not in the book of Job.
2. He is the third "friend" of Job to speak. He speaks only two times.
3. Job has heard two points from his friends: *man is sinful* (Eliphaz), and *God is just* (Bildad). Zophar now finishes with the third point: *God punishes sin and gives less than we really deserve*.
4. Zophar already considers Job guilty but came up with a formula for Job to fix himself.

B. Zophar's Three Accusations

1. You are guilty before God. (vv. 1-6)

Job 11:1-6, NLT -¹ Then Zophar the Naamathite replied to Job:

² "Shouldn't someone answer this torrent of words? Is a person proved innocent just by a lot of talking? ³ Should I remain silent while you

babble on? When you mock God, shouldn't someone make you ashamed? ⁴ You claim, 'My beliefs are pure,' and 'I am clean in the sight of God.' ⁵ If only God would speak; if only he would tell you what he thinks! ⁶ If only he would tell you the secrets of wisdom, for true wisdom is not a simple matter. Listen! God is doubtless punishing you far less than you deserve!

2. You are ignorant of God. (vv. 7-12)

Job 11:7-9, NLT -⁷ "Can you solve the mysteries of God? Can you discover everything about the Almighty? ⁸ Such knowledge is higher than the heavens—and who are you? It is deeper than the underworld—what do you know? ⁹ It is broader than the earth and wider than the sea.

- Can you search out the deep things of Almighty God?
- Can you find the limits of Almighty God?
- Does your understanding reach the highest heaven?
- Does your understanding reach the deepest underworld?

3. You are stubborn and should turn back to God. (vv. 13-20)

Job 11:20, HCSB - *If you don't listen to me I'll tell you what is going to happen to you. But the sight of the wicked will fail.*

C. Zophar's "Fourfold Formula for Repentance"

1. **Repentance** (Gk: μετάνοια, "*meta-no-ee-o*"); "Everything must change—our minds and our actions—from *evil to good*; or, from *good to better*." (Strong's)

2. **Repentance** (Heb. תשובה, "*teh-shoo-va*"); "*Turn back* in total surrender!"

Job 11:13-14, TLB -¹³ ...Turn [back] to God and stretch out your hands to him, get rid of your sins and leave all iniquity behind you. ¹⁵ Only then, without the spots of sin to defile you, can you walk steadily forward to God without fear.

1. **Surrender your heart to God.**

2. **Reach out to Him for supplication.**

3. **Stop the sin in your life.**

4. **Be made spotless by God** (lit., Leave no sin in your tent.)

Job 11:13-15, MSG -¹³ "...If you set your heart on God and reach out to him, ¹⁴ If you scrub your hands of sin and refuse to entertain evil in your [life], ¹⁵ You'll be able to face the world unashamed and keep a firm grip on life, guiltless and fearless.