

- I) V1-3 INTRO: Then Job answered and said No doubt you are the people and wisdom
- II) Job's friend Zophar has been rebuking Job for complaining
Job had been complaining and had gone so far as to address his complaints to God
Ch 10 is a complaint that is personally directed towards God (V2)
- III) This was just too much for Zophar, so he began rebuking Job for his presumption
Job 11:2-3 He basically said Your empty, foolish speech deserves a rebuttal
The actual fact is, you are getting less than you deserve! (V6b)
- IV) The fact is: Zophar speaks much truth, in spite of his approach and insensitivity
- V) When someone is in need of correction gentleness and humility are important
Pr 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.
- VI) When bringing an exhortation or rebuke, it is important to be known for integrity
Few things are as irritating as being rebuked by someone not practicing what they say
- VII) When it is necessary to confront and encourage someone, be aware of your own sins
Ro 15:14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are *full of goodness*, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.
- VIII) FULL OF GOODNESS: Paul is not speaking of natural goodness, for there is none good
Eccl 7:20 For *there is* not a just man on earth *who does good* and does not sin.
- IX) When he speaks of *goodness* he is speaking of the fruit of the Spirit
Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, *goodness*, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
- X) This is spiritual fruit produced by a life strengthened by the Spirit
It is the result of abiding in Jesus, the True Vine
Jn 15:4-5 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine,

you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

XI) **GOODNESS: Moral and spiritual excellence, known by service and graciousness**
It is not moral or legal correctness, but the manifestation of the Spirit
Gal 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people,
especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

I) Paul also spoke of being filled with all knowledge
This spoke of *spiritual* knowledge: a knowledge of God, His word and His ways

II) Finally, he spoke of being able to admonish one another
Goodness and knowledge of the things of God qualify a person to admonish another

III) Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar have all brought rebukes to Job
He now lets them know how he feels about their arguments

IV) Job now responds to what he has been told with stinging sarcasm
He makes it clear that God is behind all events, whether good or evil
He also says that in his pain, he needs to ask God why he is suffering

V) V2 No doubt you are the people and wisdom will die with you
Job is irritated by how they have spoken to him
They are convinced that he is deserving of punishment because he has sinned

VI) V2 No doubt you are the people and wisdom will die with you
You are above every other human being on the planet and all wisdom exists in you
When you die, all wisdom will cease to exist, no one will know anything!

VII) V3 But I have understanding as well as you I am not inferior to you Indeed who does not
He is not boasting, he is simply making it clear that he already knows these things

VIII) I have no consciousness of any inferiority to you: You are not my teachers
Of course God is in control of everything, who is arguing about that?

IX) Anyone who believes in God knows He has wisdom, power, and justice

X) V4 I am one mocked by his friends, who called on God and He answered him

You have accused me of mocking
Job 11:3 When you mock, should no one rebuke you

XI) In reality, it is you who are mocking me

XII) I am the laughing stock of my neighbors

Job 19:18-19 Even young children despise me; I arise, and they speak against me. All my close friends abhor me, And those whom I love have turned against me.

XIII) V4b Who called on God and He answered him. The just and blameless who is ridiculed

God answered my prayers and I know that I am just, am blameless

I) Still, I am being ridiculed for something that I have not done

Instead of arguing with me, why not pray for me that I might be healed

II) V5 A lamp is despised in the thought of one who is at ease It is made ready for those

Those who are at ease don't need a lamp because they aren't in the dark

III) The one not suffering from any misfortune does not understand

Seeing that you are at ease, you don't understand what I am going through

IV) V6 The tents of robbers prosper and those who provoke God are secure In what God

God doesn't always act quickly against the evil one of this world

Sometimes God allows evil to go unchecked, and evil people can be at rest

V) POINT: Sometimes evil appears to go unpunished and the righteous suffer

He seems to put into their hands opportunities to prosper, even more than righteous

VI) God is in control: Whether it be allowing the wicked to prosper or suffering of righteous

VII) V7-9 Job points to creation to show that God has absolute control over all of creation

Dt 10:14 Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD'S your God, the earth also, with all that therein is.

Ps 24:1 The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Ps 89:11 The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours: as for the world and the fulness thereof, You have founded them

VIII) V7-9 But now ask the beasts and they will teach you; and the birds of the air and they will

If you could speak to nature, nature itself would reveal that God is the Absolute Ruler

IX) SPEAK TO THE EARTH: In its seasons, like summer, winter, seedtime and harvest

Its very order demonstrates more than chance, but rather reveals intelligence

X) Zophar has just told Job that God's ways are unsearchable (11:7-9)

Job says you don't need to go to heaven or hell, but you can observe this on earth

XI) Just observe the beast, birds, the earth itself and fish (the witness of creation)

Ro 1:18-20 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse

I) V10 In whose hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind

God is all powerful, and absolute power to give life or to take it away

He gives life and health when it pleases Him, but also can take it away if He desires

His ways are deep and unfathomable

II) V11 Does not the ear *test words* and the mouth *taste* its food

The wise man does not accept everything that he hears and like everything he tastes

III) These things call for discernment, and we should distinguish the truth from the false

You men have not exercised such discernment in that you charge me with sin

IV) V12 Wisdom is with aged men and with length of days, understanding

Why should I listen to you, when you do not speak with wisdom?

V) The natural way for men to gain wisdom is a process of many years

It is not until they have grown old that they can qualify for being wise

VI) Of course, it depends on what a person's life has been built on that determines

wisdom

Some grow old but never grow wiser

Job 32:9 Great men are not always wise, nor do the aged always understand

justice

VII) V13-25 He begins to list attributes of God, revealing his knowledge of the Lord

VIII) V13 He *is* wisdom: He does not at one time have more wisdom than other times

V14 He is all powerful: Nothing can withstand Him

V15 He is the One who controls nature, giving rain that nourishes the ground

V16 He is strength and wisdom: He not only can plan, He can bring His plans to

fruition

V17 The wise of the earth cannot escape or resist Him

V18 Kings rule or are taken captive by His will

V19 He rules over the priestly class, the King-priests, like Melchizedek

V20 He turns the eloquent and aged into imbecilic fools

V21 Princes and warriors are nothing to Him

V22 He reveals secret things that men have hidden, and reveals secret plottings

V23 He is Sovereign over the rise and fall of great nations

V24-25 He undermines the strength of chiefs, leaving them wandering in

confusion

IX) Ch. 13:1-2 Behold my eyes has seen all this My ear has heard and understood it

X) The first two verses are closely connected to what he has just said

V1-2 He is saying I have gained this understanding by myself: you haven't given me new revelation and you have no special right to instruct me

I) V3 I would speak to the almighty and I desire to reason with God

Why should I listen to you? You speak with natural wisdom, but not spiritual wisdom

What you know I also already know

II) I do not wish to argue with you but I need to speak to God about my pain

Through for years God has answered my prayers and I need to speak directly to Him

III) This is something that we believers are now able to do, through Jesus

Eph. 3:12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

IV) V4-5 You forgers of lies, you are all worthless physicians Oh that you would be silent

Forgers of lies, because you have falsely accused me of sinning and reaping from it

V) V4 You are worthless physicians because you are unable to heal, or even understand me

You believe that I have brought all of these calamities upon myself, through an evil life

V5 Your best wisdom would be silence!

VI) V6-9 Now hear my reasonings and heed the pleadings of my lips Will you speak
You have had your opportunity with me, now it's my turn

VII) V7 Will you speak wickedly for God and talk deceitfully for Him?
Will you misrepresent Him, to me?

VIII) V8 Will you show partiality for Him Will you contend for God
Will you judge me guilty on His behalf, using arguments against me with partiality?
Will you, though trying to speak for Him, actually be speaking your own mind?

IX) V9 Will it be well when He searches you out Or can you mock Him as *one mocks a man*
Are you so pure that you can stand when He judges You?

X) V9 You can deceive man, but you cannot fool God
Ps. 44:21 Shall not God search this out? for he knows the secrets of the heart.
Ro 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

XI) V10 He will surely rebuke you if you secretly show partiality
If you show partiality, He will deal with you because God judges without partiality
Ro 2:11 There is no partiality with God
Col 3:25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

I) V11-12 Will not His excellence make you afraid and the dread of Him fall upon you?

II) When you stand before Him, you will be afraid because *your words are empty*
Heb 12:29 For our God is a consuming fire.
Jer. 10:10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King.
When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath.
Mt 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell

III) V13-19 Hold your peace with me and let me speak Then let come on me what may!

Job tells his friends to be quiet

IV) V14 Why do I take my flesh in my teeth and put my life in my hands

This is another way of saying Why do I torment myself? Why am I trying to save myself

V) V15-16 Though He slay me yet will I trust Him Even so I will defend my own ways before

Job knew himself to be innocent and would cling to God, no matter what

VI) Though he was going through so much pain, his trust remained firmly in God

Ps. 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

VII) V17-19 Listen carefully to my speech and to my declaration with your ears See now

I need to speak or I will perish: listen carefully and hear me out

I have carefully thought out what I am saying, and I know I will be declared innocent

If anyone wants to argue with me, I am prepared to present my case

VIII) V20-27 Only two things do not do to me, then I will not hide myself from You

Job makes two requests of God

IX) V21 FIRST: Put an end to my bodily suffering

SECOND: Put an end to my mental suffering, my constant nightmares

X) V22 Then call *and I will answer* or let me speak then You respond to me

When I am free from this suffering, I will be able to answer Your charges

Or perhaps, let me ask You questions, that You may explain Your reasons to me

XI) This reveals the depth of sorrow and torment

Though in pain he has no right to say this to God

Ro 9:20 But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"

I) V23 How many are my iniquities and sins Make me know my transgression and my sin

Job thinks that there is sin that needs to be repented of, but doesn't know which one

Reveal to me what I have done wrong: I will explain myself to you

II) V24 Why do You hide Your face and regard me as Your enemy
Why have You turned Your face from me: have I offended You and in what way?

Ps 10:1 Why do You stand afar off O Lord Why do You hide Yourself in times of trouble

III) V24 Why are you treating me as an enemy, causing me to suffer so intensely

IV) V25 Will You frighten a leaf driven to and fro and will You pursue dry stubble
A dry leaf and dry stubble are pictures of things that have no weight and are burned

These things are insubstantial and inconsequential, having no value

V) V26 You write bitter things against me and make me inherit the iniquities of my youth

You have written out charges against me, and they are severe

You have recorded every one of them from the time I was very small, until now

Now, I am paying for them all at one time

VI) There is an account that people will give to God

Ro 14:12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

This highlights how precise and accurate God's judgment on sin is

VII) This gives us insight into the prayer of the psalmist

Ps. 25:7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions:
according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.

IX) V27 You put my feet in the stocks and watch closely all my paths You set a limit for the

You have made it impossible for me to escape You or Your judgments

X) V28 Man decays like a rotten thing like a garment that is moth eaten

Man from the moment of conception is slowly dying, ending up worn out and decaying

XI) In Christ, the sins of our youth are forgiven, and we rest in hope

Col. 1:19-21 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto

himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now has he reconciled