

- I) **V1-6 INTRO: Moreover Job continued his discourse and said**
- II) **As we begin our look at this chapter, I will remind you of what has just taken place**
- III) **One of Job's friends, Bildad, has once again made it clear he thinks Job has sinned**  
**He has reminded Job that God is Sovereign and that God is the Almighty**  
**God commands an infinite military and His presence is throughout the earth (25:3)**
- IV) **Since God is perfect, what is a man in comparison to Him**  
**How can a man claim to be righteous, seeing that man is filled with sinfulness**  
**The fact is man is a maggot and simply a worm! (25:6)**
- V) **Job responded to Bildad by basically saying that what he had just said was worthless**  
**How has what you have said been of help to me?**
- VI) **The fact is you have been of no help at all**  
**Have you strengthened my weakened life? Have you given the benefit of your wisdom**  
**You are convinced that I have no wisdom but what wisdom have you offered to me?**
- VII) **Job went on to ask: just whom are you speaking to, anyway? (26:3)**  
**Surely you aren't speaking to me, and just who prompted you to speak to me like this**
- VIII) **We saw how after Job made these statements, he once again spoke of God's greatness**  
**The dead tremble before Him, He suspends the earth with nothing supporting it**  
**He creates clouds, and they hold the water but do not burst by its weight**  
**He covers the face of His throne, and man cannot approach His holiness**
- IX) **Even in my saying these things of Him, I am just touching on His grandeur (26:14)**  
**How can I speak of such an awesome God**

**X) Bildad spoke of God's might and asked how can a man be righteous before God (25:4)**

**In this question he revealed that he knew of God's righteousness but not His grace**

**XI) QUOTE: If sin will be the ruin of men-and surely it will-yet our Lord Jesus Christ knows how to take the ruined sinners and build them up to be temples for His indwelling. Christ will take the very castaways of the devil and use them for Himself. He delights to stoop over the dunghill and pick up a broken vessel that is thrown away, and make it into a vessel fit for the Master's use.**

**XII) Bildad had touched a nerve with Job, and Job has begun to respond  
V1-6 Job now continues to maintain his claim of integrity before God and man**

**I) V1 He begins by calling God to be his witness: As God lives  
Job makes it clear that what he is going through is from the hand of God**

**This has confused him deeply because he did not know of anything he had done**

**II) He says God has taken away my justice and has made my soul bitter  
TAKEN AWAY: He has denied, or withheld justice from me, treating me as guilty**

**I am suffering, but God hasn't helped me to understand why this is happening**

**III) He won't explain His actions to me and has left me wondering what I have done wrong**

**God has not entered into discussion with him concerning the justice of His doings**

**He has treated Job as if he is guilty but hasn't revealed what he is guilty of**

**IV) He has not shown me what I have done wrong, though He knows that I trust Him**

**I have begged Him to reveal why this is happening, but He is silent  
He hasn't revealed to me what I have done to offend him**

**V) V2 THE RESULT: He has made my soul bitter**

**Bitterness is often defined as anger and disappointment at being treated unfairly**

**VI) Job had already made it clear that he was in misery and would speak openly**

about it

Job 7:11 Therefore I will not keep silent; I will speak out in the anguish of my spirit, I will complain in the bitterness of my soul

VII) Bitterness is being settled on the injustice of something and not letting it go  
It can be overcome when we relinquish to God what is out of our control  
Heb 12:14-15 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

VIII) At this point, Job has become bitter because he has had no answer from God

IX) Still, we need to remember that Job still trusts the Lord  
Job 13:15 Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him

X) V3-4 As long as my breath is in me, and the breath of God in my nostrils my lips will not

The breath of God is alluding to how God breathed life into Adam  
Gen 2:7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being

XI) V4 As long as I am alive I will not speak wickedness nor my tongue utter deceit

I) This would inform his friends that he was not what they thought he was  
I am not speaking in favor of wickedness, nor am I lying to cover up any sin

II) V4 Nor my tongue utter deceit  
I cannot confess to a guilt that I do not truly possess

III) V5 Far be it from me that I should say you are right! Til I die I will not put away my

I am not going to say that you have been right all along!  
I am not going to confess to sin, just to please you!

IV) I am going to continue to maintain my innocence:  
I am know I am a sinner, but I have not done what you continue to accuse me of!

V) V6 My righteousness I hold fast and will not let it go My heart shall not reproach me

I will hold on to my knowledge that I have lived uprightly before God

VI) I have lost every thing of value to me: family, possessions, health, dignity and standing

But I will not let go of my sense that I have lived in my integrity

Ps 7:8 The Lord judges the peoples; judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness and according to the integrity that is in me.

VII) V7 May my enemy be like the wicked and he who rises up against me like the unrighteous

Job's tone changes and he begins to call down curses upon his enemies

Instead of being like the wicked, Job makes it clear that they have nothing in common

VIII) This kind of speech is not completely uncommon in scripture

The psalms have many examples of this kind of intense sentiment

IX) Ps 3:7 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

Ps 10:15 Break the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness until You find none

Ps 58:6 Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth

X) Job is responding to how his friends have painted him as evil and sinful

He is distancing himself from such thoughts

I do not love wickedness, I even hate even the thought of it

XI) V8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite Though he may gain much if God takes away his

he is

A hypocrite is an actor, putting on a mask to appear different than what

C. S. Lewis Of all bad men, *religious* bad men are the worst

I) Job is saying that he is not a hypocrite

There is no reason he should envy them or desire what they have

Even if they gain much they never enjoy it and eventually leave it, or

lose it

II) V8 Eventually God takes away his life

III) He dies, God judges him and he enters into eternity as one who lost everything

Lu 12:15-20 And He said to them Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. And He told them a parable, saying The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my

crops? And he said, I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry but God said to him, Fool! This night your soul is required of you and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?

IV) V9 Will God hear his cry when trouble comes upon him  
Will God listen to the one who never listened to Him?  
Ps 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear

V) V10 Will he delight himself in the Almighty? Will he always call on God?  
No, because his delight is in what the world has to offer him

VI) Because of this he does not call on God because his confidence is in his possessions  
His trust is in his material advantages  
1 Ti 6:17 Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

VII) V11 Will he delight himself in the Almighty Will he always call on God  
Delighting in the Lord occurs when we learn to long for the things that He desires

VIII) A genuine believer finds their fulfillment and delight in the Lord  
Ps 37:4 Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart

IX) The believer knows that it is in God's word that he will find true joy  
He delights in the Lord when He desires what the Lord desires  
Ps 1:1-2 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.

I) V11 Will he always call on God  
The fact is, the hypocrite does not always call on God  
If his prayer is answered, he still will not have a genuine relationship with God!

II) V11-12 I will teach you about the hand of God; what is with the Almighty I will not conceal  
I will now teach you regarding how God deals with the wicked

III) Job will at this point refine and restate what he believes God to be like and what He does

IV) V12 Surely all of you have seen it; why then do you behave with complete nonsense

What I am about to say is something that you have known by your own experience

I am not saying anything that you haven't learned yourself

V) Because this is true, I don't understand how you continue with your wrong opinions

Why do you continue saying that my suffering is proof of a secret sin life?

Why do you insist on saying that only wicked people suffer, but not the righteous?

VI) V12 Surely you have seen that the wicked can be afflicted

I just don't understand why you insist on condemning me as being wicked!

VII) V13 This is the portion of the wicked man with God and the heritage of oppressors

In this opening word, he repeats what Zophar had said in 20:29  
This is what the wicked have in store for them

VIII) V14 If his children are multiplied it is for the sword and his offspring shall not be satisfied

In the ancient world, children were regarded as gifts from God  
The more the children, the greater the blessing

IX) The sad fact is, even when the wicked have many children often there is tragedy

They may die at the hand of enemy forces, or die in tragic ways

X) V14b And his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread

If they somehow escape this kind of experience, they can fall into poverty

Being poor, there will be no one to relieve them of their misery, and will suffer hunger

XI) V15 Those who survive him shall be buried in death and their widows shall not weep

Those who survive the sword and famine will die of disease

There will not be any friends who will bury them so they remain  
unburied

XII) V15 Their widows shall not weep (no one to lament and sorrow at their death)  
There will be no funeral procession or those who weep at their death

I) When he says widows it is a hint that the man had many wives  
This often was the case with the rich: many wives was a symbol of  
status

None of them will weep at his death  
A very great omission in the eyes of middle-easterners

II) V16-17 Though he heaps up silver like dust and piles up clothing like clay he  
may pile

These are pictures of abundance

III) The wealth of Solomon was described in a similar way

2 Chron 1:15 The king made silver and gold as common in Jerusalem as  
stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills

IV) Even as today, wealth was often demonstrated by quantities of furniture and  
clothing

There was a desire to display wealth openly, so clothing became very  
important

Because they had so much, the value of such things ceased being  
important

V) V17 He may pile it up but the just will wear it and the innocent will divide the  
silver

This is a thought found in other places in scripture

Eccl 2:26 God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who  
please him. But if a sinner becomes wealthy, God takes the wealth away and  
gives it to those who please him. This, too, is meaningless—like chasing the  
wind.

Pr 23:5 Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will  
surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

VI) V18 He builds his house like a moth, like a booth which a watchman makes

An evil man attempting to build a lasting home and family is like a moth  
trying to build a lasting monument to itself

It is as temporary as a cocoon

VII) V19 The rich man will lie down but not be gathered up he opens his eyes and  
he is no

Like all men, the rich man will die  
He will not be gathered up (for burial) but his carcass will lie openly  
upon the earth

VIII) V19 He opens his eyes and he is no more  
This is a picture of dying suddenly, never having the full use of all the  
wealth he had

In just a moment, he is gone and his life is concluded

IX) V20 Terrors overtake him like a flood A temptest steals him away in the night  
He does not die in peace, and his death is quick and unexpected

X) V21-22 The east wind carries him away and he is gone it sweeps him out of his  
place

I) The east wind is a picture of swift and violent judgment

The east wind violently takes him away, sweeping him from the earth

II) V23 Men shall clap their hands at him and shall hiss him out of his place

People will rejoice when he no longer is alive

Instead of weeping, they deride his death and are happy that he is dead

III) This reminds me of the last words of some who rejected Jesus

IV) Voltaire: A brilliant man who used his skills to attack Christianity

He said "My single hand shall destroy the edifice it took twelve apostles  
to rear

V) When he died, his physician wrote down his last words and this is what he  
said

I am abandoned by God and man! I will give you half of what I am worth if  
you will give me six months' life. Then I shall go to hell; and you will go with me. O  
Christ! O Jesus Christ

VI) Shortly after he died the house he used to print his literature became the depot  
of the Geneva Bible Society

VII) Contrast this with the way a believer can die

VIII) The first martyr of the church was a man named Stephen

He was one of the first deacons, and had been arrested for preaching  
the gospel

IX) When he stood before the high priest, Stephen preached the gospel



**As he preached he gave a short history of the nation of Israel  
After sharing its history, he made it clear that Israel's priests resisted  
the Spirit**

**X) As the result of this strong word, the Jewish officials executed him  
Stephen's last words were Lord, do not charge them with this sin  
Ac 8:60 closes with the words And when he had said this, he fell asleep**

**XI) Peace comes through forgiveness and a fellowship with God**