

# Job 8

Truth

None of the 4 players know what we do from Ch. 1  
Job is being tested not punished

- **Eliphaz:** Job is being punished for sin
- **Bildad:** Job should repent of sin

## I. Bildad Job Should Repent

1 Then **Bildad the Shuhite** answered and said: 2 "**How long will you speak these things**, And the words of your mouth be like a **strong wind**? 3 Does God **subvert judgment**? Or does the Almighty **pervert justice**? 4 If your **sons** have **sinned against Him**, **He has cast them away** for their transgression. 5 **If you would earnestly seek God** And make your supplication to the Almighty, 6 **If you were pure and upright**, Surely now He would awake for you, And prosper your rightful dwelling place. 7 Though your beginning was small, Yet your **latter end would increase abundantly**.

- **Bildad** Son of Contention
- **Mode Operation** Brutal/Cold...

Your sons died because of their sin...So will you Job if you don't repent

- **V6** Seek God. Latter end better than first: God's plan for Job

8 "For inquire, please, of the **former age**, And consider the things **discovered by their fathers**; 9 For we were born yesterday, and **know nothing**, Because our days on earth are a shadow. 10 **Will they not teach** you and tell you, And utter words from their heart? 11 "Can the papyrus grow up without a marsh? Can the reeds flourish without water? 12 While it is yet green and not cut down, It withers before any other plant. 13 So are the paths of **all who forget God**; And the **hope of the hypocrite** shall perish, 14 Whose confidence shall be cut off, And whose trust is a spider's web. 15 He leans on his house, but it does not stand. He holds it fast, but it does not endure. 16 He grows green in the sun, And his branches spread out in his garden. 17 His roots wrap around the rock heap, And look for a place in the stones. 18 If he is destroyed from his place, Then it will deny him, saying, 'I have not seen you.' 19 "Behold, this is the joy of His way, And out of the earth others will grow.

The wisdom of our forefathers is the same as ours...

- Those who forget God will wither...**like you're doing now**
- Hypocrites will perish. So repent or...

**God will forget about you and replace you with somebody better**

Bildad attempts to explain Job's suffering by Natural Law. Natural Law does not always translate to the Spiritual realm as when not considering God's mercy and His desire for our restoration. [NJC]

[E.g.] God says, I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten... that is not a natural law, and yet it is what happens in the spiritual world. [Chambers]

**20 Behold, God will not cast away the blameless, Nor will He uphold the evildoers.**

### **It's just this simple Job...**

God's blesses good people/Punishes bad people

If only it were all so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy **a piece of his own heart?** [Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn]

If God worked as Bildad described; i.e. Justice w/out mercy  
Bildad/everyone else would have no hope

**Romans 3:23 ...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...**

**Galatians 3:22 ...Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.**

**21 He will yet fill your mouth with laughing, And your lips with rejoicing. 22 Those who hate you will be clothed with shame, And the dwelling place of the wicked will come to nothing."**

▪ **If you get right with God/Suffering will end? Really?**

1. Was Jesus not right with God?
2. Was Paul not right with God?
3. Was Peter not right with God?

Being right with God does not mean we will not suffer

**2 Timothy 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.**

## **Job 9**

Truth

### **I. Job God does not Understand**

**1 Then Job answered and said: 2 "Truly I know it is so, But how can a man be righteous before God?"**

It was as if Job cried out, **"Why is God so hard to figure out?"** His friends did not think that God was hard to figure out; the problem was simple to them. Job had sinned in some bad and unusual way; therefore all this disaster came upon him. Yet Job, knowing not all the

truth as revealed in Job 1-2, but at least knowing his own heart and integrity, knew that God was not so simple to figure out. [Guzik]

3 If one wished to **contend** with [God] [lit. as in a court of law], He could not answer one time out of a thousand. 4 God is wise in heart and mighty in strength. Who has hardened himself against Him and prospered? 5 He removes the mountains, and they do not know When He overturns them in His anger; 6 He shakes the earth out of its place, And its pillars tremble; 7 He commands the sun, and it does not rise; He seals off the stars; 8 He alone spreads out the heavens, And treads on the waves of the sea; 9 He made the **Bear, Orion, and the Pleiades**, And the chambers of the south. 10 He does great things past finding out, Yes, wonders without number.

God's power is obvious...but knowing that does not answer the question  
**Q.** How can a man be righteous before God? **A.** It must be retrofitted

- **Retrofit:** The addition of new technology or features to older systems.

**Romans 3:19** Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the **world may become guilty before God.** 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the **righteousness of God apart from the law** is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, **through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.**

Only Jesus is innately Righteous. We are clothed in His righteousness by Faith  
We are seen by the Father as having the righteousness of Jesus

- Unknowingly Job now describes Jesus future Ministry

[Miracles]11 If He goes by me, I do not see Him; If He moves past, I do not perceive Him; [Passed through crowd] 12 If He takes away, who can hinder Him? Who can say to Him, 'What are You doing?' [No one asked any more questions] 13 God will not withdraw His anger, The allies of the proud lie prostrate beneath Him [Demons subject to Him]. Taught on Emaus road?

How can a man be righteous answered later by Paul  
Job continues to wrestle with the question...

14 "How then can I answer Him, And choose my words to reason with Him?  
15 For though I were righteous, I could not answer Him; **I would beg mercy of my Judge.** 16 If I called and He answered me, I would not believe that He was listening to my voice. 17 For He crushes me with a tempest, And multiplies my wounds without cause. 18 He will not allow me to catch my breath, But fills me with bitterness. 19 If it is a matter of strength, indeed He is strong; And if of justice, who will appoint my day in court?

Though I did all I could do to be righteous  
I would still beg for mercy rather than demand justice

20 Though I were righteous, my own mouth would condemn me; Though I were blameless, it would prove me perverse.

Just as claiming to be humble reveals a lack of true humility  
Claiming to be righteous would reveal that I am not. **Yet...**

21 **"I am blameless**, yet I do not know myself; I despise my life. 22 It is all one thing; Therefore I say, 'He destroys the blameless and the wicked.' 23 If the scourge slays suddenly, **He laughs at the plight of the innocent**. 24 The **earth is given into the hand of the wicked**. He covers the faces of its judges. If it is not He, who else could it be?

**1 Corinthians 4:3** But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, **I do not even judge myself**. 4 For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

- **I am blameless as far as I know**. But I don't know

God laughs at the plight of the innocent? Careful Job.  
What we believe about God directs every aspect of our lives

25 "Now my days are **swifter than a runner**; They flee away, they see no good. 26 They pass by like swift ships, Like an eagle swooping on its prey.

Job felt that his life was passing by so quickly that his days would be over and God would leave this whole matter unresolved. [Guzik]

27 If I say, 'I will forget my complaint, I will put off my sad face and wear a smile,' 28 I am afraid of all my sufferings; **I know that You will not hold me innocent**. 29 If I am condemned, Why then do I labor in vain? 30 If I wash myself with snow water, And cleanse my hands with soap, 31 Yet You will plunge me into the pit, And my own clothes will abhor me.

- Job's current thoughts re. God's ways

1. If I act as if I'm guiltless                      You will not hold me innocent?
2. If I'm already condemned      Why keep trying to hold on?
3. If I try to cleanse myself                      You will show me my filth again

Nihilistic view of God's Sovereignty. Useless to try...  
God will do whatever He wants however He wants to whomever He wants

- God does not know/care what am going through...

32 "For He is not a man, as I am, That I may answer Him, And that we should go to court together. 33 **Nor is there any mediator between us**, Who may lay his hand on us both.

IOWs God is powerful but does not understand or care about me  
Maybe someone could explain my situation to Him?

**1 Timothy 2:3** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and **one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus**

God does not know what am going through...**FALSE**  
God *experientially* knows what you are going through

**Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Job began Ch. 9 by wanting He and God to go to Court  
Ends with crying out for a Mediator

34 Let Him take His rod away from me, And do not let dread of Him terrify me. 35 Then I would speak and not fear Him, But it is not so with me.

Job says he won't speak and will fear God till his suffering ends?  
But he continues to speak revealing a shocking irreverence of God

## Job 10

Truth

### I. Job Asking for Trouble

1 **"My soul loathes my life;** I will give **free course to my complaint,** I will speak in the bitterness of my soul. 2 **I will say to God, 'Do not condemn me;** Show me why You contend with me. 3 **Does it seem good to You** that You should oppress, That You should despise the work of Your hands, And smile on the counsel of the wicked? 4 Do You have eyes of flesh? Or do You see as man sees? 5 Are Your days like the days of a mortal man? Are Your years like the days of a mighty man, 6 That You should seek for my iniquity And search out my sin, 7 Although You know that I am not wicked, And there is no one who can deliver from Your hand?

Job begins to cross lines/Question/Accuse God without Reservation

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore **come boldly** to the throne of **grace,** that we may obtain **mercy and find grace** to help in time of need.

We approach God boldly on the basis of what Jesus did.  
Humbly with the knowledge of what we have done

**Ecclesiastes 5:1** **Walk prudently when you go to the house of God;** and draw **near to hear** rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil. 2 Do not be rash with your mouth, And **let not your heart utter anything hastily** before God.

For God is in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few. **3b...a fool's voice is known by his many words.**

**Exodus 3:5** [God to Moses] "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for **the place where you stand is holy ground.**"

**Proverbs 10:19** In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.

- Job attempts to manipulate God with logic...

8 'Your hands have made me and fashioned me, An intricate unity; Yet You would destroy me. 9 Remember, I pray, that You have made me like clay. And will You turn me into dust again? 10 Did You not pour me out like milk, And **curdle me like cheese**, 11 Clothe me with skin and flesh, And knit me together with bones and sinews? 12 You have granted me life and favor, And Your care has preserved my spirit.

- Curdled like cheese?

Adam Clarke explained the meaning of Job 10:10 only in Latin because he felt so awkward with the subject matter; after his explanation he wrote, I make no apology for leaving this untranslated.

Did You intricately create me to destroy me?

13 'And these things You have hidden in Your heart; I know that this was with You: 14 If I sin, then You mark me, And will not acquit me of my iniquity. 15 If I am wicked, woe to me; Even if I am righteous, I cannot lift up my head. I am full of disgrace; See my misery! 16 If my head is exalted, You hunt me like a fierce lion, And again You show Yourself awesome against me. 17 You renew Your witnesses against me, And increase Your indignation toward me; **Changes and war are ever with me.**

- This is the way You really feel
  1. If I sin you mark me
  2. If you mark me You won't forgive me
  3. If I'm wicked or righteous I'm still marked
  4. If I try to lift my head You'll see me/catch me
  5. If you catch me You mark me again

Changes and war are ever with me. Why?

**A.** Wrong thinking about God

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. [Tozer]

The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion and spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. [Tozer]

Wrong thinking about God will lead to wrong actions toward God/others  
God is Good. God is Big. God is Willing. God is Able

- Job digresses back to Ch. 3

18 'Why then have You brought me out of the womb? Oh, that I had perished and no eye had seen me! 19 I would have been as though I had not been. I would have been carried from the womb to the grave. 20 Are not my days few? **Cease! Leave me alone**, that I may take a little comfort, 21 Before I go to the place from which I shall not return, To the land of darkness and the **shadow of death**, 22 A land as dark as darkness itself, As the shadow of death, without any order, Where even the light is like darkness.' "

Job will not accept anything that contradicts the facts he knows; he is not spiteful, he does not say God is cruel, he simply states the facts — 'It looks as though God is rejecting me without any reason, all the facts go to prove this and I am not going to blink them. [Chambers]

- **We don't base our lives** on facts because facts may change
- **We base our lives on the Word of God** which never changes

**2 Corinthians 5:7** For we walk by faith, not by sight.

God is Good. God is Big. God is Willing. God is Able  
God is Life. God is Love. God is Light

- Job uses 4 Different Hebrew words for **darkness**
- **Obsessed** w/darkness/finding comfort in macabre

David employs a Correct Perspective  
**God is Light.**

**Psalm 139:11** [David] If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; **The darkness and the light are both alike to You.** 13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made

**Psalm 23:4** Yea, though I walk through **the valley of the shadow of death**, I will fear no evil; **For You are with me...**

What we think about God is the most important thing about us

It's easier to have a right view of God when you're not sitting in a dump scratching your boils with condemning friends used by the devil to provoke wrong thoughts regarding God and direct from the playbook of the lying snake in the Garden of Eden. [NJC]

## Job 11

Truth

- **Zophar**      **A Sparrow**      **Twittering/Mean tongue**

Zophar [will detach Job's] words from the man...[hearing] them only as babble/mockery. [Andersen]

## I. Zophar Urges Job to Repent

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said: 2 **"Should not the multitude of words be answered? And should a man full of talk be vindicated?** 3 Should your empty talk make men hold their peace? And when you mock, should no one rebuke you?

**IOWs** Do you really think you'll get away with that rant of yours?

4 For you have said, 'My doctrine is pure, And I am clean in your eyes.' 5 But oh, that God would speak, And open His lips against you, 6 That He would show you the secrets of wisdom! For they would double your prudence. Know therefore that **God exacts from you Less than your iniquity deserves.**

**Zophar:** The way you see yourself is not the way God sees you  
No. You're not getting half of what God knows you deserve

7 "Can you search out the **deep things of God?** Can you find out the limits of the Almighty? 8 They are higher than heaven—**what can you do?** Deeper than Sheol—**what can you know?** 9 Their measure is longer than the earth And broader than the sea.

What can you do....What can you know?  
Can you know the deep things of God?

- Spirit-filled believers can know the deep things of God...

**1 Corinthians 2:9** But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But **God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.** For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the **deep things of God.** 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

**Colossians 2:2b** Jesus...in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

10 "If He passes by, imprisons, and gathers to judgment, Then who can hinder Him? 11 For He knows deceitful men; He sees wickedness also. Will He not then consider it? 12 For **an empty-headed man will be wise, When a wild donkey's colt is born a man.**

**Zophar to Job:** When I see a donkey give birth to a man  
Then I'll receive your rants/complaining as wisdom

- **IOWs** Everything you said in your rant was foolishness to be dismissed **Repent..**

13 "If you would prepare your heart, And stretch out your hands toward Him; 14 If iniquity were in your hand, and you **put it far away,** And would not let wickedness dwell in your tents; 15 Then surely you could lift up your face without spot; Yes, you could be steadfast, and not fear; 16 Because you would



forget your misery, And remember it as waters that have passed away, 17 And your life would be brighter than noonday. Though you were dark, you would be like the morning. 18 And you would be secure, because there is hope; Yes, you would dig around you, and take your rest in safety. 19 You would also lie down, and no one would make you afraid; Yes, many would court your favor. 20 But the eyes of the wicked will fail, And they shall not escape, And their hope—loss of life!”

- Repent and you could lift your head? **At this point to some extent...TRUE**

**Genesis 4:6...** the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7 **If you do well, will you not be accepted?** And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”

- **IOWs** No need to incur any unnecessary suffering

If you repent everything will change for the better...  
But you won't...and in the end you'll die miserable. Ty Zophar

**Job 12:1** Then Job answered and said: 2 “No doubt you are the people, And wisdom will die with you!”