

# Job 15-19 –11 May 2023

## Longing For True Comfort”

### Introduction

\*Book of Job opens w/ heavenly scene in which Satan asks permission to bring calamity into Job’s life

\*Friends comes & have good intentions but their counsel goes off-track b/c of partial or misapplied info

\*Chap 3-14 – saw Eliphaz, Bildad & Zophar’s 1<sup>st</sup> speech & Job responding to each

\*Chap 15-26 – each of the three have their 2<sup>nd</sup> speech & Job response to each one

\*Have you noticed that they just keep speaking past each other

\*They just don’t agree on fundamental situation

\*In desperate situations like this, all we want is real relationship – the true comfort that comes w/ relationship

**Today we’ll see 4 aspects of true comfort**

# **1<sup>st</sup> aspect of true comfort: it will speak truthfully (Job 15)**

Read Chap 15:1-6 – *Eliphaz's 2<sup>nd</sup> Speech*

1. Job you're a windbag that's ignoring wisdom and your own sinfulness
2. You're just speaking vain words and you're not careful about what you say, no thought

Read Vs 7-13

1. Job you're ignoring the wisdom of the ages
2. Both Eliphaz here and God later (chap 38-39) argue that there are things Job doesn't know
  - a. Eliphaz argued Job didn't accept common wisdom
  - b. God will argue Job didn't accept that He knows what He's doing with Job
3. From vs 11 – Job you should be happy that we're here to comfort you with the right words – what!

## Read Vs 14-16

1. Job you're ignoring universal sinfulness of man
2. Job you're choosing to turn against God

## Read Vs 17-26

1. Wicked men suffer and that's you Job
2. Everyone knows, without exception that suffering comes upon the wicked

## Read Vs 27-36

1. So he describes the certainly that the wicked will be judged and come to nothing
2. The insinuation is...Job this is you since you choose not to repent of your sin

## **2<sup>nd</sup> aspect of true comfort: it brings hope for the future (Job 16-17)**

Read Chap 16:1-5 – *Job's 2<sup>nd</sup> reply to Eliphaz*

1. Miserable comforters are you
2. Job declares that they aren't helping him
3. All Job wants is comfort & he's not getting it

Read Vs 6-14

1. Job laments that trying to communicate isn't helping from vs 6
2. Job laments that he is being targeted by 'the enemy'

Read Vs 15-17

1. Job declares that he's suffering for no reason

Read Vs 18-22

1. Job longs for God of heaven to hear & deliver
2. Earth don't cover my blood but let it be heard by God

## Read Chap 17:1-2

1. Where then is my hope?
2. I'm done, I give up, there's no help for me here on earth

## Read Vs 3-5

1. Job begs God to come make a deal with him b/c his friends don't understand him
2. Vs 5 Job seems to justify telling his friends the blunt truth and not flattering them

## Read Vs 6-9

1. Although Job is fading fast, He trusts that upright people will endure until the end

## Read Vs 10-16

1. You my friends have not helped me find any hope at all – I will die without comfort

### **3<sup>rd</sup> aspect of true comfort: it is offered to the righteous (Job 18)**

Read Chap 18:1-3 – *Bildad's 2<sup>nd</sup> Speech*

1. Why are you ignoring our wisdom?

Read Vs 4

1. Job you've given up on wisdom, should we give up on the whole earth too?

Read Vs 5-10

1. Bildad's conclusion is that Job is confirming his wickedness by verbally denying his wickedness

Read Vs 11-16

1. Bildad describes the miserable life of the wicked...that Job is to him

Read Vs 17-21

1. Now Bildad describes the miserable end of the wicked...that Job is to him

## **4<sup>th</sup> aspect of true comfort: it comes from eternal relation with Jesus (Job 19)**

Read Chap 19:1-6 – *Job's 2<sup>nd</sup> reply to Bildad*

1. Doesn't it bother you that you're breaking our friendship making us like strangers?
2. It's God that's done this to me

Read Vs 7-12

1. God has stripped me & given no way out

Read Vs 13-20

1. What Job misses the most...relationship

Read Vs 21-22

1. Job just wants simple, kind pity

Read Vs 23-24

1. If my story was written down, surely someone down thru time could understand my situation ...b/c right now, no one does

## Read Vs 25-27

1. Job knew he would be resurrected & see God
2. His hope wavers back and forth, yet he's able to bring himself to these moments of clarity

## Read Vs 28-29

1. So now Job warns his friends to be ready for God's judgement when He comes back to earth

## Conclusion

So, desperate situations often drive us to the lowest common denominator of what we truly need

Job is simply looking for the comfort of relationship

1. **Comfort must speak truthfully**
2. **Comfort brings hope for the future**
3. **Comfort is offered to the righteous**
4. **Comfort comes from eternal relation w/ God**