

The Book of JOB

Chapters 25 – 29

“Job’s Contemplation”

Chapter 25- “Bildad’s Final Speech”

(v1-3) God is the ALMIGHTY!

(v4-6) Man is the ALPUNEY!

- Man thinks he’s basically good—God says we are sinners.
- Man thinks he’s basically loving—God says we are selfish.
- Man thinks he’s to be great—God says we are to be a servant.
- Man thinks he can be rehabilitated—God says we need to be regenerated.
- Man thinks he’s good enough to go to heaven—God says we’re going to hell, so we need a holy Savior, His name is JESUS!

Chapter 26- Job’s Response: “Who can understand?”

(v1-4) “Bildad, what have you ever done to help others?”

(v5-14) God is Omnipresent, Omnipotent and Omniscient!

Chapter 27- Job, “I will teach you!”

(v1-6) Job’s introspection:

(v4) Let’s have good “LIPS” - Psalms 63:4-5 - *Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips.*

- Proverbs 16:13 - *Righteous lips are the delight of kings, and they love him who speaks what is right.*

- Psalms 19:14 - *Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.*

(v5) “Till I die I will not put away my **integrity** from me” – **Integrity** is Honesty, sincerity, singleness of purpose, fairness. In the Old Testament, Noah (Gen 6:9), Abraham (Gen 17:1), Jacob (Gen 25:27), David (1 Kings 9:4), and Job (Job 1:1,8; 2:3,9; 4:6; 27:5; 31:6) were called people of integrity. Although Jesus did not use the word integrity, he called for purity of heart (Matt 5:8), singleness of purpose (Matt 6:22), and purity of motive (Matt 6:1-6).

(v7-8) Oh the “hypocrite” beware – **HYPOCRISY** - Pretending to be what one is not. The New Testament meaning of hypocrisy and hypocrite reflects its use in Greek drama. In the Greek theater, a hypocrite was one who wore a mask and played a part on the stage, imitating the speech, mannerisms, and conduct of the character portrayed. Throughout His ministry, Jesus vigorously exposed and denounced the hypocrisy of many who opposed Him, especially the scribes and Pharisees. They paraded their charitable deeds, praying and fasting as a theatrical display to win the praise of men (Matt 6:1-2,5,16). They sought to give the appearance of being godly, but they were actually blind to the truth of God (Luke 20:19-20). The apostle Paul encountered hypocrisy among some Jewish Christians, who refused to eat with the Gentile converts. Paul pointed out that "sincere [literally, unhypocritical] love" is one of the marks of Christian ministry. And he exhorted his readers to behave like Christians: "*Let love be without hypocrisy*" (Rom 12:9). (from Nelson's

Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

- “**gain much – lose your life**” – Jesus said in Matthew 16:24-27- *Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.*

(v11-23) Ultimate justice!

Chapter 28- "Deep Thoughts According to Job"

(v1-11) God's earth and its incredible resources.

(v12-28) The value of WISDOM and UNDERSTANDING -

> **WISDOM** - Ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding. The apostle Paul declared that the message of the cross is foolishness to the Greeks and a stumbling block to the Jews. But to those who believe, said Paul, this "foolishness of God" is "the wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:18-25). Against the wisdom of God Paul contrasted "the wisdom of this world" (1 Cor 1:20; 3:19), "human wisdom" (1 Cor 2:4), "the wisdom of men" (1 Cor 2:5), "the wisdom of this age" (1 Cor 2:6), and "man's wisdom" (1 Cor 2:13). The biblical concept of wisdom, therefore, is quite different from the classical view of wisdom, which sought through philosophy and man's rational thought to determine the mysteries of existence and the universe. The first principle of biblical wisdom is that man should humble himself before God in reverence and worship, obedient to His commands.

> **UNDERSTANDING** - **Luke 24:44-49** - *Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."* (Paul prayed for **wisdom and understanding** in **Ephesians 1:15-21**. John writes in **1 John 5:20** - *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*)

Chapter 29- "Job's Reflection"

(v1-6) The good old days!

(v7-17) Job remembers his powerful and respected public life.

(v18-25) Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away.

> **Paul shares his philosophy for a great life! - Phil 3:13-14** - *Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*