

A Study of the Book of Job: When Bad Things Happen to God's People

Lesson 13: Bildad Speaks Again and Job's Reveals the Secret to Wisdom (Chapters 25-28)

Third Cycle

Eliphaz (ch. 22)	→	Job (ch. 23-24)
Bildad (ch. 25)	→	Job (ch. 26-28)
Zophar (?)	→	Job (ch. 29-31)

25:1-6

- As the last of the three friends to speak, Bildad (finally) seizes onto the crux of the matter. What is it? What do his rhetorical questions imply?

26:1-4

- Job loads on the sarcasm and reveals the diabolical nature of the friends' line of reasoning and questioning. In truth work righteousness only wears us out, gives us no rest, no peace, admittedly leads to despair.

26:5-14

- Note: v. 12: "Rahab" is a personification of the sea as the source of all evil and chaotic forces
- Job catalogs some of God's impressive works as seen in nature. What has impressed you? Marvelous as these may be, what does Job conclude (v.14)?

27:1-6

- Note: v. 1: "Job continued his discourse" is worded differently than all of the previous speeches, suggesting that perhaps Job paused to give Zophar a chance to speak, but he remained silent.
- Job's bitterness taints his otherwise beautiful confession of righteousness. How can this same confidence be our own? (cf. Romans 8:1, 31-39)

27:7-23

- V. 8-10: It is sometimes suggested that God also uses adversity to bring the unbelieving to faith apart from the word. How does Job dispel this popular notion? (cf. also Prov. 1:28-33; Heb. 4:14-16)

- V. 13-23: Job fearlessly speaks about the fate of the wicked, even though everything that he says is happening to him. While he cannot understand why this is happening to him, he still trusts that God will punish the wicked. This must have galled his friends.

28:1-11

- This chapter contains some of the most impressive poetry ever written!
- Why all this tremendous effort and labor here described?

28:12-19

- For all man's "mining" efforts and operations, what can he never find? (v. 12) Why not? (v. 13-19)

28:20-28

- Where then alone is wisdom found? What is real wisdom that brings righteousness?