



Title: Job – The Dialogue (Chs. 3 - 42:6) – Job’s Reply to Eliphaz’s First Speech

Text: Job 6 - 7

Introduction:

1. Job does not directly respond to Eliphaz at first. He continues his complaint about his sufferings.
2. When Job replies to Eliphaz, he addresses all of his friends.
3. Job also talks to God in a dialogue for the first time at the end of chapter 7 (7:7-21).

I. Job’s Defense of His Complaint (6:1-7)

- A. Job expressed his alienation – from God.
- B. Job’s speech is outweighed by his sufferings. If he could illustrate his sufferings in weights – then everyone could see its imbalance.
- C. As Job detests bad food, so does he detest his present situation.

II. Job’s Despair of His Condition (6:8-13)

- A. Job felt alienated from himself.
- B. Job prays to God, longing for release. Job prays for death but does not take his life.
- C. Job confesses that he has no strength within himself to live. He is unable to bear his burden.

III. Job’s Disappointment of His Company (6:14-23)

- A. Job expressed his alienation from his friends.
- B. Job was looking for loyalty but found nothing in Eliphaz.
- C. (v.15) – his friends were not trustworthy friends. Illustration: of a dried up brook or river.
- D. (v.19) – troops = caravans – they were hoping for refreshment but found nothing.

IV. Job’s Directives to His Counselors (6:24-30)

- A. Job is asking them to show him his “secret sins.”
- B. Why are they reproving Job’s words (if his words are indeed as weightless as the wind?) – are their words any better?
- C. Job asserts his sincerity.

V. Job’s Details of His Condition (7:1-6)

- A. Man’s life is servitude longing for a slight repose.
- B. But Job’s suffering was worse than that of a slave. For a slave can rest at night.
- C. Job describes his physical condition (v.5).

VI. Job’s Prayer to God (7:7-21)

- A. He asked the LORD to remember the brevity of his life.
- B. Job felt like God was restraining him.
- C. Job’s prayer was that of bitter despair – defeated in life and even by death.
- D. Job confesses his sins and asks for God’s forgiveness.

Conclusion:

1. Job’s grief passed through stages: ch. 2 & 3 – silence, and depression; 6-7: anger and frustration.
2. Job is angry at his friends, but fears God and does not want to dishonor God (6:10).
3. While modern psychology suggests venting anger, the Bible has contrary precepts: Pro. 14:17, 29; 15:18; 19:11, 19; 22:24-25; 25:28; 29:11, 22.
4. The brevity of our life ought to cause us to ask God to pardon our sins and to remove our iniquities. Praise God, that Jesus came to save us from our sins.