

The Book of Job #7 - Job chapter 5

Eliphaz shows knowledge in his doctrine, but not wisdom in applying it.

I. Eliphaz Talks About the Condition of Man (Verses 1 – 7)

- A. In first five verses Eliphaz is referring to things that Job experienced
 - 1. V. 3- Established for a while, then his habitation struck
 - 2. V. 4- Children die because of his wickedness- most stinging to Job
 - 3. V. 5 – Robbers destroy substance (Like Sabbeans and Chaldeans)
- B. V. 1- No righteous person Job can point to that has case like his
 - 1. Great danger in just arguing from precedence
 - a. God can always do something He has never done before
- C. V. 2 – Mentions 2 sins and their effect on two kinds of men
 - 1. Simple and foolish are synonyms for wicked men
 - 2. Can't judge man by one incident in life- or just one speech
- D. Job has erred in being angry at a perceived wrong to him

II. Eliphaz Exhorts Job to Seek After God (Verses 6 - 8)

- A. He understands since affliction comes from God- Job should seek God
 - 1. Verse 6– Affliction doesn't just come from the ground – not chance
 - a. Comes from heart of man- his depravity – Gen. 6:5; Jam. 1:13-16
- B. Verse 7 – Man is born to trouble or to sin- Psalm 51:5; Job 14:1
 - 1. Natural for sparks to go up- natural for children to sin
 - 2. But in grace it becomes natural for us to walk holy- I John 3:8
- C. Verse 8- Hard to argue with Eliphaz's counsel to seek God
 - 1. Word "seek" implies a diligent seeking – Ps. 63:8; Ecc. 1:13
 - 2. Most godly person can be counseled correctly even by wicked
 - 3. Four good reasons to seek God in our afflictions
 - a. Understand the reason for them, Pray for strength to get through

them, That affliction will work out for our benefit, That affliction will end

III. Eliphaz Speaks About the Attributes of God (Verses 9-12)

- A. In verse 8 two names for God – El and Elohim both speak of power
- B. Verse 9 – Uses present tense – God is still doing great things! (Jn. 5:17)
- C. Eliphaz gives us a fourfold description of God's works in verse 9
 - 1. They are great works – Primarily because God is a great God!
 - a. Hebrews 2:3; Luke 1:46 – 49;
 - b. Then we ought to have great faith like Abraham–Rom 4:18-21
 - c. We should also offer God great praises – Isaiah 40:15, 16
 - 2. They are unsearchable works – Isaiah 40:28; Ps. 145:3; Rom. 11:33
 - a. Don't know how, or why, or what ends God has in His works
 - b. Some are plainer, some are able to be found by study – Jn 13:7
 - c. Therefore must follow Him even though we don't understand
 - 1. Hebrews 11:8; Genesis 22:
 - 3. They are marvelous works- Revelation 15:3; Like Christ's miracles
 - 4. They are numberless works – Can't be numbered by man
 - a. John 21:25;
- D. Then Eliphaz in next verses gives examples of these works
 - 1. Begins by using rain – this is beyond the power of man to send
 - a. Jeremiah 10:13; Amos 4:7