



Title: [The Dialogue *cont'd.*] Zophar's Second Speech (Ch. 20) and Job's Reply (Ch. 21)

Text: Job 20-21

Introduction:

1. Zophar's thesis: Though the wicked may prosper for a time, his state and portion will be destroyed.
2. Job desired to be heard for his strange calamities.
3. Job explains that the wicked sometimes prosper until they forget God.
4. Both sinner and saint are alike in death.
5. But the judgment of the wicked is in another world.

I. The Anger of Zophar (20:1-3)

- A. Zophar is quick to reply, perhaps cutting Job's speech short. Curt (marahas at pabigla).
- B. "check" – rebuke.

II. The Assessment of Zophar on the Wicked (20:4-11)

- A. Zophar's points are that the wicked is cut off – short lived, lose vigor, lose everything, suffer God's anger, sons who beg from the poor.
- B. The wicked suffer God's judgment immediately.

III. The Amercement of the Wicked (20:12-19) – Amercement means fine ("multa") or damages. 😊

- A. Their riches are expelled from their bellies.
- B. They cannot enjoy pleasures and ease.

IV. The Anger of God towards the Wicked (20:20-29)

- A. Their sins are revealed and they suffer because of their sins.
- B. They shall be forgotten.

V. Job's Call for Silence (21:1-6)

- A. Job desired to be heard.
- B. His thesis about the wicked is opposite of Zophar.

VI. Job's Claim concerning the Wicked (21:7-34)

- A. The wicked sometimes prospers.
- B. They are tempted to forget God.
- C. Both die alike (21:17-26).
- D. The wicked can and do indeed die in prosperity (vv.27-34).

Conclusion:

1. Job's friends were proud and desired for Job to submit to them.
2. In life, God's dealings with the wicked and the righteous seem inconsistent – we are to trust in the Lord in all this.
3. Suffering without a cause is meaningless without the consideration of Jesus Christ.
4. Habakkuk asked of God the same – how long will you let the wicked prosper? (Hab. 1:2).
5. God's purpose for "common grace" is evangelistic (Matt. 5:45; Rom. 2:4).
6. Let us not be surprised by God's dealings with mankind (Deut. 29:29; Isa. 55:8).
7. "Perplexity" is not a sin (not sinful) (2 Cor. 4:2). The problem with Job's friends is their dogmatism. They were just so sure and clear with God's dealings with Job – when in reality they had no clue about the situation.
8. The Devil will use trouble as tool of temptation to distrust God. Even the Lord Jesus himself was subject to trouble and temptation.
9. Trouble does not need to defeat us entirely. God may test us BUT He will also keep us.
10. We must trust in Him regardless of blessings or trouble.
11. This will be Zophar's last words to Job. He has nothing else to say in the third cycle.