

## “Job’s Defense & Prayer” Job 13:1-28

7/02/17

Today, we’d like to see the title of “Job’s Defense & Prayer” in the book of Job 13:1-28

To Online Word’s people on the earth, we’d like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 4, “But you forgers of lies, You *are* all worthless physicians,” why does Job respond so to his friends’ counsels, and what can we learn from this?

Q2. In verses 15-16, “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him. <sup>16</sup> He also *shall* be my salvation, For a hypocrite could not come before Him,” what do they mean, and what is the resolution of Job’s suffering?

Q3. In verses 23 and 24, “How many *are* my iniquities and sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin. <sup>24</sup> Why do You hide Your face, And regard me as Your enemy?” how does Job think of God’s silence, and what is its true reason in the last chapter 42?

### (Background)

Now we get to one of 5 poetical books, the book of Job, from the previous 17 historical books.

Job lost property, his children, and suffered painful boils from the sole of his feet unto his crown in Job 2:7,” So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.”

Then, Job’s 3 friends gave counsel to him in Job 2:11, “Now when Job’s three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, each one came from his own place—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. For they had made an appointment together to come and mourn with him, and to comfort him.”

3 friends’ (Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar) counsel is that suffering’s reason is sin, requiring repentance.

However, another friend, Elihu, gives a counsel through Job 32 to 37 suffering’s reason is often the means to purify the children of God. (See 5 reasons of suffering below)

	<b>5 reasons of suffering</b>	<b>Sufferer’s Resolution</b>
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1	Illness (a patient of a flow of blood <sup>1</sup> Luke 8:43)	Patient's Faith & Prayer ( <sup>2</sup> Luke 8:48; James 5:14-15)
2	Death (death of Lazarus <sup>3</sup> John 11:32-33; Acts 8:2)	Bereaved one's Comfort & Hope ( <sup>4</sup> 1 Thess 4:17-18)
3	Sin (David's adultery with Bath-Sheba <sup>5</sup> 2 Sam 12:10-11)	Sinner's Repentance followed by corrected behavior ( <sup>6</sup> 1 John 1:9)
4	Faith (Paul & Timothy <sup>7</sup> 2 Cor 1:8)	Persecuted one's Faith & seeking Forgiveness for persecutors ( <sup>8</sup> 2 Cor 1:9; Acts 7:60)
5	Unexplainable good purpose of God (Joseph <sup>9</sup> Gen 50:20)	Sufferer's Faith & Prayer ( <sup>10</sup> Rom 8:28; Phil 4:6)

In the last chapter 12, Job defended against the counsel of Zophar. And now in this chapter 13, Job defends against all the 3 friends' counsels.

(Text)

1 "Behold, my eye has seen <u>all this</u> , My ear has heard and understood it.	1= all this (all your counsel)
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<sup>1</sup> Luke 8:43 Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any.

<sup>2</sup> Luke 8:48 And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer: your faith has made you well. Go in peace." James 5:14-15 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

<sup>3</sup> John 11:32-33 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. Acts 8:2 Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him.

<sup>4</sup> 1 Thess 4:17-18 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

<sup>5</sup> 2 Sam 12:10-11 Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. <sup>11</sup> Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.

<sup>6</sup> 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

<sup>7</sup> 2 Cor 1:8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life.

<sup>8</sup> 2 Cor 1:9 Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead.; Acts 7:60 Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

<sup>9</sup> Gen 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.

<sup>10</sup> Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Phil 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

<p><sup>2</sup>What you know, I also know; I <u>am not inferior to you</u>.</p> <p><sup>3</sup>But <u>I would speak to the Almighty,</u> And <u>I desire to reason with God</u>.</p> <p><sup>4</sup>But <u>you forgers of lies,</u> <u>You are all worthless physicians</u>.</p> <p><sup>5</sup>Oh, that you would be <u>silent,</u> And it would be <u>your wisdom!</u></p> <p><sup>6</sup>Now hear my reasoning, And heed the pleadings of my lips.</p> <p><sup>7</sup>Will you <u>speak wickedly</u> for God, And <u>talk deceitfully</u> for Him?</p> <p><sup>8</sup>Will you show <u>partiality for Him?</u> Will you <u>contend for God?</u></p> <p><sup>9</sup>Will it be well when He searches you out? Or <u>can you mock Him</u> as one mocks a man?</p> <p><sup>10</sup><u>He will surely rebuke you</u> If you secretly show partiality.</p> <p><sup>11</sup>Will not His excellence make you afraid, And the <u>dread of Him</u> fall upon you?</p>	<p>2= I also know... not inferior to you (I know and understand your counsels fully)</p> <p>3= (I would pray to God); reason with God</p> <p>4 =Q1 you forgers of lies (your counsels to Job – Job's present pain and suffering boils from the sole of his feet unto his crown is caused by his sin. And Job must repent it before God – true principle from the Scriptures but (1) wrongfully applies to Job <sup>11</sup>Jer 23:36; Mat 4:6 ; (2) lack of love or comfort but judgmental words <sup>12</sup>1 Cor 13:1-3; 2 Cor 1:3-4); all worthless physicians (all your counsels are useless, meaningless, irrelevant to Job's case)</p> <p>5= silent... your wisdom (often silence is wise before saying <sup>13</sup>James 1:19)</p> <p>7= speak wickedly for God... talk deceitfully.. (because of their wrongful application to Job, who used the strong word of "wickedly" "deceitfully" from his upset heart – later God says their counsels are not right <sup>14</sup>Job 42:7)</p> <p>8= partiality for Him (favor to those who commit sins but are prosperous, i.e., prosperous result oriented counsel – wealth, power, or health); contend for God (allege for God?)</p> <p>9= (rhetorical questions? NEVER)</p> <p>10= He will surely rebuke you (God does so, in Job 42:7, above, "not right!")</p>
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<sup>11</sup> Jer 23:36 And the oracle of the LORD you shall mention no more. For every man's word will be his oracle, for you have perverted the words of the living God, the LORD of hosts, our God; Mat 4:6 and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'

<sup>12</sup> 1 Cor 13:1-3 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing; 2 Cor 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

<sup>13</sup> James 1:19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

<sup>14</sup> Job 42:7 And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.

<p>12 <u>Your platitudes are proverbs of ashes, Your defenses are defenses of clay.</u></p> <p>13 <u>“Hold your peace with me, and let me speak,</u> Then let come on me what <i>may!</i></p> <p>14 <u>Why do I take my flesh in my teeth, And put my life in my hands?</u></p> <p>15 <u>Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.</u></p> <p>16 <u>He also shall be my salvation, For a hypocrite could not come before Him.</u></p> <p>17 Listen carefully to my speech, And to my declaration with your ears.</p> <p>18 <u>See now, I have prepared my case, I know that I shall be vindicated.</u></p> <p>19 <u>Who is he who will contend with me? If now I hold my tongue, I perish.</u></p> <p>20 <u>“Only two things do not do to me, Then I will not hide myself from You:</u></p> <p>21 <u>Withdraw Your hand far from me, And let not the dread of You make me afraid.</u></p> <p>22 Then call, and I will answer; Or let me speak, then You respond to me.</p> <p>23 <u>How many are my iniquities and sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin.</u></p>	<p>12= Your platitudes are proverbs of ashes (your wrongfully applied principles are useless like ashes); Your defenses are defenses of clay (Your defenses against Job's answers are fragile like clay)</p> <p>13= Hold your peace with me (keep silent, friends); let me speak (to you friends)</p> <p>14= (I have to speak to you)</p> <p>15=Q2 Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him (even if God makes me suffer – loss of property, children, health – I will trust God, i.e., keep faith) Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him (I will pray fervently to God – prayer – FAITH &amp; PRAYER are the resolution of this kind of Pain &amp; Suffering arising from unexplainable good purpose of God)</p> <p>16=Q2 He shall be my Salvation (This meaning is the meaning of Jesus, the Lord is salvation – only the Lord will resolve this pain and suffering); a hypocrite could not come before Him</p> <p>18= prepared my case, I know that I shall be vindicated [justified] (Job alleges that he is innocent of sins causing his present pain &amp; suffering painful boils from the sole of his feet unto his crown)</p> <p>19= Who is he who will contend with me? (Nobody can contend or argue with me except God); if now I hold my tongue, I perish (poetical description – I have to petition to God, now verses 20 up to 28 – fervent prayer)</p> <p>20= Only 2 things (verse 21); I will not hide myself from You (I will pray to You)</p> <p>21= Withdraw Your hand far from me ((1) Stop his present pain &amp; suffering); let not the dread of You make me afraid (Stop Your great fear)</p> <p>23= Q3 my iniquities and sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin (tell me my all sins, the Lord!)</p>
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<p><u>24 Why do You hide Your face, And regard me as Your enemy?</u></p> <p><u>25 Will You frighten a leaf driven to and fro? And will You pursue dry stubble?</u></p> <p><u>26 For You write bitter things against me, And make me inherit the iniquities of my youth.</u></p> <p><u>27 You put my feet in the stocks, And watch closely all my paths. You set a limit for the soles of my feet.</u></p> <p><u>28 "Man decays like a rotten thing, Like a garment that is moth-eaten.</u></p>	<p>24=Q3 Why do you hid Your face (why do you keep silence); And regard me as Your enemy? (Lord considers me as your enemy? Not your child? Job later discovers that God's good purpose is for Job to have intimate personal relationship with God – spiritual sight, not actual sight – “now my eyes sees You” <sup>15</sup>Job 42:5; James 1:2-4; Romans 8:28 - poetical description – <sup>16</sup>John 1:18; John 6:46; Ex 33:19-20; Deut 34:10)</p> <p>25= a leaf driven... dry stubble (like Job's body)</p> <p>26= write bitter things ... the iniquities of my youth (God remembers and writes all sins in his past youth to punish him <sup>17</sup>Psalms 25:7)</p> <p>27= You put my feet in the stocks (in the shackles, i.e., God does not see further my life but)... watch closely all my paths (God watches my past life in detail); You set a limit for the soles of my feet (You limit me to present suffering painful boils of the soles of my feet unto my crown)</p> <p>28= a rotten thing... a garment that is moth-eaten (description of his present painful boils body)</p>
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<sup>15</sup> Job 42:5 “I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You; James 1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup> But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing; Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. <sup>16</sup> John 1:18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*; John 6:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father; Ex 33:19-20 Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” <sup>20</sup> But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.”; Deut 34:10 But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, <sup>17</sup> Psalm 25:7 Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.