

## COMMENTARY

### BOOK OF JOB:

#### Chapter 12-14:

Job, hurt by the attitude and lack of support that he has received from his friends, resorts to sarcasm in response to their counsel. Job suggests that if God has changed the rules about justice and wisdom [12:7-22], there is nobody who can prevent it. He decided that the best thing is for his friends to leave him alone (13:13) and for him to present his case to God and maybe God will vindicate him (13:18). Job sees that life is short and feels that it is too late for him to find happiness and contentment again. Because of this, Job asks God to hide him from such pain and allow him to die. Job becomes skeptical about life after death and begins to give up hope.

#### Chapter 15:

Eliphaz begins his second speech. He becomes irate with Job's response and speaks with a bitter sarcasm. He still refuses to consider the possibility that Job might actually be innocent of wrongdoing and is convinced that he will succeed in getting Job to realize his sin. Eliphaz is convinced that Job is speaking wildly and without supporting evidence; which he assumes, proved Job's guilt. He tries to convince Job that the wicked are punished for their evil.

#### Chapters 16,17:

Job finds no comfort in the words of his friends. If they were in his place, he suggests that it would not be so easy for them to talk and judge. He is becoming worn out by his trial and the cruelty from those he is surrounded by. The picture that he gives of himself, is one that shows a man who is in unbearable agony. He feels that God is the one responsible for all that is taking place and seeks for one who can intervene with God and plead his case. He's afraid that such help will not come, and if it does, it may be too late.

#### Chapter 18:

Bildad is frustrated and upset because Job refuses to accept his guilt and the recommendations of his friends. He tries to persuade Job to admit his guilt by describing the fate of the wicked.

#### Chapter 19:

Job in this, his sixth speech, finds that his friends detest him (vs. 19), he no longer knows his wife for she has become a stranger (vs. 17), even children abhor him (vs. 18), and feeling rejected by all; he seeks pity (vs. 21). Even so, Job utters his assurance about the living God and the hope of seeing Him (vs. 25-27).

#### Chapter 20:

Zophar picks up, in his second speech, where Bildad had left off. He describes the fate of the wicked, assuming that unless Job confesses his "sin", he will experience this type of fate himself.

#### Chapter 21:

Job states that it always seems to him, that the wicked prosper and don't have to face the trials that the righteous have to endure. He admits that in the end, the wicked may suffer, but feels that it still isn't fair.

#### Chapter 22:

Eliphaz continues to attack Job. He goes even to the point of listing the sins of Job, mainly composed of ill-treatment of the poor. He suggests that Job was trying to hide and veil these things from God (vs. 13,14). Still, he is speaking from assumption and not able to verify his charges.



## STUDY GUIDE

Book of Job

Chapters 12-22 (include Chapter and verse, in your answers)

1. What does Job say is in the Lords' hand?
2. What does Job say belongs to God?
3. What does God do for the nations?
4. What does Job say, wisdom would be for his 3 friends?
5. What does Job say, a godless man would not dare to do?
6. How does Job describe the days of a man born of woman?
7. What does Job say, God will eventually not keep track of and will cover, after God has counted Jobs steps?
8. What does Job say God destroys of man?
9. What does Eliphaz suggest, Job undermines and hinders?
10. According to Eliphaz, what should the wicked man not trust in?
11. What does Job say, he would do, if they were in his place?
12. Even though his body shows the signs of his torment, what does Job say his hands have been free of, and what does he say is pure?
13. What will the righteous hold to, and what will happen to those with clean hands?
14. What, according to Bildad, throws down the wicked?
15. What happens to the memory of the wicked, and what does the wicked have none of in the land?
16. What two things does Job not receive, even though he cries out?
17. What groups and individuals, does Job feel isolated and detested by?

STUDY GUIDE

Book of Job  
Chapters 12-22 contd.

18. What does Job say, that he knows? [see 19:25-27]
19. How is the length of mirth & joy of the wicked and godless described?
20. What does Zophar say the wicked cannot save himself with?
21. What does Job say about the wicked? [see: 21:7,8]
22. What of Jobs', did Eliphaz consider endless?
23. What examples does Eliphaz give, of sins he assumes, Job has committed against the poor?
24. In 22:21-22, what does Eliphaz suggest Job to do?
25. What will be the result of such action?

BONUS:

1. How accurate are the beliefs of Job & his 3 friends, concerning the punishment of the wicked, with other passages of God's Word?
2. Do Job and his friends believe in the resurrection, as we do? Explain.
3. Explain repentance according to Job and his friends, compared to repentance according to the New Testament.