

Job 15 - 3 Friends: Round 2 & 3; Job's Replies

II. Dialogue (Job 3:1—42:6)

(3) Second dialogue cycle (Job 15:1—21:34)

(A) Job's exchange with Eliphaz (Job 15:1—17:16)

(a) Eliphaz' second speech (15:1-35)

- (i) Job has condemned himself through his self-righteousness (15:1-6)
- (ii) Eliphaz claims the elders agree with him (15:7-13)
- (iii) Man's universal guilt before God (15:14-16)
- (iv) Eliphaz claims that his view is consistent with the views of the elders (15:17-19)
- (v) Only the wicked suffer (15:20-35)

Job 15

(3) Second dialogue cycle (Job 15:1—21:34)

(A) Job's exchange with Eliphaz (Job 15:1—17:16)

(a) Eliphaz' second speech (15:1-35)

- (i) Job has condemned himself through his self-righteousness (15:1-6)

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite responded,

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1 Then answered Eliphaz the Temanite, and said,

2 "Should a wise man answer with windy knowledge, And fill himself with the east wind?

2 "Should a wise man answer with windy knowledge And fill himself with the east wind?

2 "Should a wise person respond with knowledge based on wind? Should he fill his stomach with a wind storm from the east?

2 Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?

3 "Should he argue with useless talk, Or with words which do not benefit?

3 "Should he argue with useless talk, Or with words which are not profitable?

3 Should he engage in unprofitable argument, or give a speech that benefits no one?

3 Should he reason with unprofitable talk? or with speeches wherewith he can do no good?

4 "Indeed, you do away with reverence, And hinder meditation before God.

4 "Indeed, you do away with reverence And hinder meditation before God.

4 Yet you dispense with fear of God and hinder meditations before God.

4 Yea, thou castest off fear, and restrainest prayer before God.

5 "For your wrongdoing teaches your mouth, And you choose the language of the cunning.

5 "For your guilt teaches your mouth, And you choose the language of the crafty.

5 Because your sin dictates your speech, you have chosen the language of the crafty.

5 For thy mouth uttereth thine iniquity, and thou chooseth the tongue of the crafty.

6 "Your own mouth condemns you, and not I; And your own lips testify against you.

6 "Your own mouth condemns you, and not I; And your own lips testify against you.

6 Your own mouth is condemning you, not I; your own lips will testify against you."

6 Thine own mouth condemneth thee, and not I: yea, thine own lips testify against thee.

(ii) Eliphaz claims the elders agree with him (15:7-13)

7 "Were you the first person to be born, Or were you brought forth before the hills?

7 "Were you the first man to be born, Or were you brought forth before the hills?

7 "Were you the first person to be born? Were you brought forth before the hills were made?

7 Art thou the first man that was born? or wast thou made before the hills?

8 "Do you hear the secret discussion of God, And limit wisdom to yourself?

8 "Do you hear the secret counsel of God, And limit wisdom to yourself?

8 Have you listened in on God's secret council? Have you limited wisdom only to yourself?

8 Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?

9 "What do you know that we do not know? *What* do you understand that we do not?

9 "What do you know that we do not know? *What* do you understand that we do not?

9 What do you know that we don't know, or that you understand and that isn't clear to us?

9 What knowest thou, that we know not? what understandest thou, which is not in us?

10 "Both the gray-haired and the aged are among us, Older than your father.

10 "Both the gray-haired and the aged are among us, Older than your father.

10 "We have both the gray-haired and the aged with us, and they are far older than your father.

10 With us are both the grayheaded and very aged men, much elder than thy father.

11 "Are the consolations of God too little for you, Or the word *spoken* gently to you?
11 "Are the consolations of God too small for you, Even the word *spoken* gently with you?
11 Are God's encouragements inconsequential to you, even a word that has been spoken gently to you?
11 Are the consolations of God small with thee? is there any secret thing with thee?

12 "Why does your heart take you away? And why do your eyes wink,
12 "Why does your heart carry you away? And why do your eyes flash,
12 Why have your emotions carried you away? And why do your eyes flash
12 Why doth thine heart carry thee away? and what do thy eyes wink at,

13 That you can turn your spirit against God And produce *such* words from your mouth?
13 That you should turn your spirit against God And allow *such* words to go out of your mouth?
13 that you turn your anger against God and speak words like this?
13 That thou turnest thy spirit against God, and lettest such words go out of thy mouth?

(iii) Man's universal guilt before God (15:14-16)

14 "What is man, that he would be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he would be righteous?
14 "What is man, that he should be pure, Or he who is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?
14 "What is mankind, that he can be blameless? Or does being born of a woman mean he'll be in the right?
14 What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?

15 "Behold, He has no trust in His holy ones, And the heavens are not pure in His sight;
15 "Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones, And the heavens are not pure in His sight;
15 Look, if God doesn't trust his holy ones, if even the heavens aren't pure as he looks at them,
15 Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints; yea, the heavens are not clean in his sight.

16 How much less one who is detestable and corrupt: A person who drinks malice like water!
16 How much less one who is detestable and corrupt, Man, who drinks iniquity like water!

16 then how much less is one who is abhorred and corrupted, such as a man who drinks injustice like water?"

16 How much more abominable and filthy is man, which drinketh iniquity like water?

(iv) Eliphaz claims that his view is consistent with the views of the elders (15:17-19)

17 "I will tell you, listen to me; And what I have seen I will also declare;

17 "I will tell you, listen to me; And what I have seen I will also declare;

17 "I'll tell you what, listen to me! Let me relate what I've seen,

17 I will shew thee, hear me; and that which I have seen I will declare;

18 What wise people have told, And have not concealed from their fathers,

18 What wise men have told, And have not concealed from their fathers,

18 which is what wise men have explained, who didn't withhold anything from their ancestors.

18 Which wise men have told from their fathers, and have not hid it:

19 To whom alone the land was given, And no stranger passed among them.

19 To whom alone the land was given, And no alien passed among them.

19 To them alone was the land given, when no invader passed through their midst.

19 Unto whom alone the earth was given, and no stranger passed among them.

(v) Only the wicked suffer (15:20-35)

20 "The wicked person writhes in pain all *his* days, And the years reserved for the ruthless are numbered.

20 "The wicked man writhes in pain all *his* days, And numbered are the years stored up for the ruthless.

20 "The wicked person writhes in pain throughout his life, a number of years has been reserved for the ruthless.

20 The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, and the number of years is hidden to the oppressor.

21 "Sounds of terror are in his ears; *While he is* at peace the destroyer comes upon him.

21 "Sounds of terror are in his ears; While at peace the destroyer comes upon him.

21 Terrifying sounds ring in his ears; when times are prosperous, the Destroyer will attack him.

21 A dreadful sound is in his ears: in prosperity the destroyer shall come upon him.

22 "He does not believe that he will return from darkness, And he is destined for the sword.

22 "He does not believe that he will return from darkness, And he is destined for the sword.

22 He does not believe he will escape darkness; he is destined for the sword.

22 He believeth not that he shall return out of darkness, and he is waited for of the sword.

23 "He wanders about for food, *saying*, 'Where *is it?*' He knows that a day of darkness is at hand.

23 "He wanders about for food, *saying*, 'Where is it?' He knows that a day of darkness is at hand.

23 He wanders around for food—where is it? He knows that a time of darkness is near.

23 He wandereth abroad for bread, *saying*, Where is it? he knoweth that the day of darkness is ready at his hand.

24 "Distress and anguish terrify him, They overpower him like a king ready for the attack,

24 "Distress and anguish terrify him, They overpower him like a king ready for the attack,

24 Distress and pressure terrify him; they overwhelm him, like a king poised for attack.

24 Trouble and anguish shall make him afraid; they shall prevail against him, as a king ready to the battle.

25 Because he has reached out with his hand against God, And is arrogant toward the Almighty.

25 Because he has stretched out his hand against God And conducts himself arrogantly against the Almighty.

25 "For he has raised his fist against God, defying the Almighty.

25 For he stretcheth out his hand against God, and strengtheneth himself against the Almighty.

26 "He rushes headlong at Him With his massive shield.

26 "He rushes headlong at Him With his massive shield.

26 He defiantly ran against him carrying his thick, reinforced shield.

26 He runneth upon him, even on his neck, upon the thick bosses of his bucklers:

27 "For he has covered his face with his fat, And put fat on his waist.

27 "For he has covered his face with his fat And made his thighs heavy with flesh.

27 Though he covered his face with fat, and is grossly overweight at the waist,

27 Because he covereth his face with his fatness, and maketh collops of fat on his flanks.

28 "He has lived in desolate cities, In houses no one would inhabit, Which are destined to become ruins.

28 "He has lived in desolate cities, In houses no one would inhabit, Which are destined to become ruins.

28 He will live in devastated towns, in abandoned houses that are about to become heaps of rubble.

28 And he dwelleth in desolate cities, and in houses which no man inhabiteth, which are ready to become heaps.

29 "He will not become rich, nor will his wealth endure; And his property will not stretch out on the earth.

29 "He will not become rich, nor will his wealth endure; And his grain will not bend down to the ground.

29 "He won't become rich and his wealth won't last; he won't expand his holdings to cover the land.

29 He shall not be rich, neither shall his substance continue, neither shall he prolong the perfection thereof upon the earth.

30 "He will not escape from darkness; The flame will dry up his shoot, And he will go away by the breath of His mouth.

30 "He will not escape from darkness; The flame will wither his shoots, And by the breath of His mouth he will go away.

30 He won't escape darkness; a flame will wither his shoots; and he'll depart by the breath of God's mouth.

30 He shall not depart out of darkness; the flame shall dry up his branches, and by the breath of his mouth shall he go away.

31 "Let him not trust in emptiness, deceiving himself; For his reward will be emptiness.

31 "Let him not trust in emptiness, deceiving himself; For emptiness will be his reward.

31 Let him not trust in a worthless speech. He leads only himself astray, for emptiness will be his reward.

31 Let not him that is deceived trust in vanity: for vanity shall be his recompence.

32 "It will be accomplished before his time, And his palm branch will not be green.

32 "It will be accomplished before his time, And his palm branch will not be green.

32 This will be accomplished before his time; his branches won't grow luxuriant.

32 It shall be accomplished before his time, and his branch shall not be green.

33 "He will drop off his unripe grape like the vine, And will cast off his flower like the olive tree.

33 "He will drop off his unripe grape like the vine, And will cast off his flower like the olive tree.

33 "He is like a vine that drops its unripe grapes; like an olive tree that loses its blossoms.

33 He shall shake off his unripe grape as the vine, and shall cast off his flower as the olive.

34 "For the company of the godless is barren, And fire consumes the tents of the corrupt.

34 "For the company of the godless is barren, And fire consumes the tents of the corrupt.

34 For the company of the godless is desolation, and fire consumes the tents of those who bribe.

34 For the congregation of hypocrites shall be desolate, and fire shall consume the tabernacles of bribery.

35 "They conceive harm and give birth to wrongdoing, And their mind prepares deception."

35 "They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity, And their mind prepares deception."

35 For they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity; their womb is pregnant with deception."

35 They conceive mischief, and bring forth vanity, and their belly prepareth deceit.