

Job 19 - Job Responds to Bildad

II. Dialogue (Job 3:1–42:6)

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

(B) Job's exchange with Bildad (Job 18:1–19:27)

(b) Job 's reply (19:1-27)

- (i) Job rebukes his friends for their harsh words (19:1-6)
- (ii) Job accuses God of ignoring his plight (19:7-12)
- (iii) Job's estrangement and ridiculers (19:13-20)
- (iv) Job calls out to his friends for pity (19:21-22)
- (v) Job's hope in God (19:23-27)

Job 19

(b) Job 's reply (19:1-27)

(i) Job rebukes his friends for their harsh words (19:1-6)

1 Then Job responded,

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1 In response, Job said:

1 Then Job answered and said,

2 "How long will you torment me And crush me with words?

2 "How long will you torment me And crush me with words?

2 "How long do you intend to keep torturing me and trying to break me by what you're saying?

2 How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words?

3 "These ten times you have insulted me; You are not ashamed to wrong me.

3 "These ten times you have insulted me; You are not ashamed to wrong me.

3 Ten times you've tried to humiliate me! You're not ashamed to wrong me!

3 These ten times have ye reproached me: ye are not ashamed that ye make yourselves strange to me.

4 "Even if I have truly done wrong, My error stays with me.

4 "Even if I have truly erred, My error lodges with me.

4 Even if it's true that I've erred, my error only affects me.

4 And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself.

5 "If indeed you exalt yourselves against me And prove my disgrace to me,
5 "If indeed you vaunt yourselves against me And prove my disgrace to me,
5 If you really intend to vaunt yourselves over me, and make my problems the basis of your case against me,
5 If indeed ye will magnify yourselves against me, and plead against me my reproach:

6 Know then that God has wronged me And has surrounded me with His net.
6 Know then that God has wronged me And has closed His net around me.
6 then at least you must know that God has accused me of wrong, and trapped me with his net."
6 Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net.

(ii) Job accuses God of ignoring his plight (19:7-12)

7 "Behold, I cry, 'Violence!' but I get no answer; I shout for help, but there is no justice.
7 "Behold, I cry, 'Violence!' but I get no answer; I shout for help, but there is no justice.
7 "Although I cried out 'Violence!' I received no answer; I cried for help, but there was no justice.
7 Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment.

8 "He has blocked my way so that I cannot pass, And He has put darkness on my paths.
8 "He has walled up my way so that I cannot pass, And He has put darkness on my paths.
8 He blocked my path, so I cannot pass; and he turned out the lights on my pathways.
8 He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths.

9 "He has stripped my honor from me And removed the crown from my head.
9 "He has stripped my honor from me And removed the crown from my head.
9 "He has stripped me of my honor; he has stolen the crown off my head!
9 He hath stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head.

10 "He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone; And He has uprooted my hope like a tree.

10 "He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone; And He has uprooted my hope like a tree.

10 He is breaking me down on every side, and now it's too late for me; he has uprooted my hopes like a tree.

10 He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree.

11 "He has also kindled His anger against me And considered me as His enemy.
11 "He has also kindled His anger against me And considered me as His enemy.
11 His anger burns against me; he regards me as his adversary.
11 He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies.

12 "His troops come together And build up their way against me And camp around my tent.
12 "His troops come together, And build up their way against me And camp around my tent.
12 His troops march in a column against me, erecting their siege ramps against me; they surround my tent."
12 His troops come together, and raise up their way against me, and encamp round about my tabernacle.

(iii) Job's estrangement and ridiculers (19:13-20)

13 "He has removed my brothers far from me, And my acquaintances have completely turned away from me.
13 "He has removed my brothers far from me, And my acquaintances are completely estranged from me.
13 "My brothers are alienated from me; my acquaintances are estranged;
13 He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me.

14 "My relatives have failed, And my close friends have forgotten me.
14 "My relatives have failed, And my intimate friends have forgotten me.
14 my relatives have failed me; and my friends have abandoned me.
14 My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me.

15 "Those who live in my house and my servant women consider me a stranger. I am a foreigner in their sight.
15 "Those who live in my house and my maids consider me a stranger. I am a foreigner in their sight.
15 Those who live in my house— and my maid-servants, too!— treat me like a stranger; they think I'm a foreigner.
15 They that dwell in mine house, and my maids, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight.

16 "I call to my servant, but he does not answer; I have to implore his favor with my mouth.
16 "I call to my servant, but he does not answer; I have to implore him with my mouth.
16 "I call to my servant, but he doesn't respond, even though I beg to him earnestly.
16 I called my servant, and he gave me no answer; I intreated him with my mouth.

17 "My breath is offensive to my wife, And I am loathsome to my own brothers.
17 "My breath is offensive to my wife, And I am loathsome to my own brothers.
17 My wife says my breath stinks; even my children say I smell bad!
17 My breath is strange to my wife, though I intreated for the children's sake of mine own body.

18 "Even young children despise me; I stand up and they speak against me.
18 "Even young children despise me; I rise up and they speak against me.
18 Even little children hate me; when I get up, they mock me.
18 Yea, young children despised me; I arose, and they spake against me.

19 "All my associates loathe me, And those I love have turned against me.
19 "All my associates abhor me, And those I love have turned against me.
19 My closest friends detest me; even the ones I love have turned against me.
19 All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me.

20 "My bone clings to my skin and my flesh, And I have escaped *only* by the skin of my teeth.
20 "My bone clings to my skin and my flesh, And I have escaped *only* by the skin of my teeth.
20 I'm a pile of skin and bones; I have barely escaped by the skin of my teeth."
20 My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth.

(iv) Job calls out to his friends for pity (19:21-22)

21 "Pity me, pity me, you friends of mine, For the hand of God has struck me.
21 "Pity me, pity me, O you my friends, For the hand of God has struck me.
21 "Be gracious to me, be gracious to me, my friends, because God's hand has struck me.
21 Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.
22 "Why do you persecute me as God does, And are not satisfied with my flesh?

22 "Why do you persecute me as God does, And are not satisfied with my flesh?
22 Why are you chasing me, as God has been doing? Aren't you satisfied that I'm sick?
22 Why do ye persecute me as God, and are not satisfied with my flesh?

(v) Job's hope in God (19:23-27)

23 "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were recorded in a book!
23 "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book!
23 If only my words were written down; if only they were inscribed in a book
23 Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!

24 "That with an iron stylus and lead They were engraved in the rock forever!
24 "That with an iron stylus and lead They were engraved in the rock forever!
24 using an iron stylus with lead for ink! Then they'd be engraved in rock forever.
24 That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!

25 "Yet as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last, He will take His stand on the earth.
25 "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.
25 "As for me, I know that my Vindicator is alive; And he, the Last One, will take his stand on the soil.
25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

26 "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I will see God,
26 "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God;
26 Even after my skin has been destroyed, clothed in my flesh I will see God,
26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

27 Whom I, on my part, shall behold for myself, And whom my eyes will see, and not another. My heart faints within me!
27 Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!
27 whom I will see for myself. My own eyes will look at him— there won't be anyone else for me!— He is the culmination of my innermost desire."
27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

Job Reminds His Friends of Judgment

28 "If you say, 'How shall we persecute him?' And 'What pretext for a case against him can we find?'

28 "If you say, 'How shall we persecute him?' And 'What pretext for a case against him can we find?'

28 "When you're thinking about asking yourselves, 'How will we pursue him, since the root of the problem is with him?'

28 But ye should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me?

29 *"Then be afraid of the sword for yourselves, For wrath brings the punishment of the sword, So that you may know there is judgment."*

29 *"Then be afraid of the sword for yourselves, For wrath brings the punishment of the sword, So that you may know there is judgment."*

29 Make sure that you remain wary of God's sword, for God's wrath brings with it the sword of punishment, by which you'll know there's a judgment."

29 Be ye afraid of the sword: for wrath bringeth the punishments of the sword, that ye may know there is a judgment.