

Job 22 - Round 3: Eliphaz Loses His Cool

II. Dialogue (Job 3:1–42:6)

- (4) Third dialogue cycle (Job 22:1–31:40)
 - (A) Job's exchange with Eliphaz (Job 22:1–24:24)
 - (a) Eliphaz' third speech (22:1-30)
 - (i) God is no longer interested in Job due to his iniquities (22:1-5)
 - (ii) Eliphaz enumerates Job's sins (22:6-20)
 - (a) Social sins (22:6-11)
 - (b) Spiritual sins: Living wickedly under the false pretense that divine judgment will never come (22:12-20)
 - (iii) Job must repent in order to experience divine blessing (22:21-30)

Job 22

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 - (A) Job's exchange with Eliphaz (Job 22:1–24:24)
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1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite responded,

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2 "Can a strong man be of use to God, Or a wise one be useful to himself?

2 "Can a vigorous man be of use to God, Or a wise man be useful to himself?

2 "Can a human being be useful to God, since he, who is wise, is sufficient to himself?

2 Can a man be profitable unto God, as he that is wise may be profitable unto himself?

3 "Is *it any* pleasure to the Almighty if you are righteous, Or gain if you make your ways blameless?

3 "Is there any pleasure to the Almighty if you are righteous, Or profit if you make your ways perfect?

3 Will it please the Almighty if you are innocent, or does he profit if your life is blameless?

3 Is it any pleasure to the Almighty, that thou art righteous? or is it gain to him, that thou makest thy ways perfect?

4 "Is it because of your reverence that He punishes you, That He enters into judgment against you?

4 "Is it because of your reverence that He reproves you, That He enters into judgment against you?

4 Will he acquit you just because you fear him, and render a verdict on your behalf?

4 Will he reprove thee for fear of thee? will he enter with thee into judgment?

5 "Is your wickedness not abundant, And is there no end to your guilty deeds?

5 "Is not your wickedness great, And your iniquities without end?

5 Your wickedness is great, isn't it? There's no limit to your iniquity, is there?

5 Is not thy wickedness great? and thine iniquities infinite?

(ii) Eliphaz enumerates Job's sins (22:6-20)

(a) Social sins (22:6-11)

6 "For you have seized pledges from your brothers without cause, And stripped people naked.

6 "For you have taken pledges of your brothers without cause, And stripped men naked.

6 "After all, you've taken collateral from your relatives for no reason; you stripped the naked of their clothing.

6 For thou hast taken a pledge from thy brother for nought, and stripped the naked of their clothing.

7 "You have given the weary no water to drink, And you have withheld bread from the hungry.

7 "To the weary you have given no water to drink, And from the hungry you have withheld bread.

7 You've neglected to give water to the weary, and you've withheld food from the hungry.

7 Thou hast not given water to the weary to drink, and thou hast withholden bread from the hungry.

8 "But the earth belongs to the powerful man, And the one who is honorable dwells on it.

8 "But the earth belongs to the mighty man, And the honorable man dwells in it.

8 The land belongs to the powerful, and the privileged thrive in it.

8 But as for the mighty man, he had the earth; and the honourable man dwelt in it.

9 "You have sent widows away empty, And the strength of orphans has been crushed.

9 "You have sent widows away empty, And the strength of the orphans has been crushed.

9 You sent away widows empty-handed, and broke the outstretched arms of orphans.

9 Thou hast sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless have been broken.

10 "Therefore traps surround you, And sudden dread terrifies you,

10 "Therefore snares surround you, And sudden dread terrifies you,

10 That's why disaster surrounds you, terror suddenly overwhelms you,

10 Therefore snares are round about thee, and sudden fear troubleth thee;

11 Or darkness, so *that* you cannot see, And a flood of water covers you.

11 Or darkness, so that you cannot see, And an abundance of water covers you.

11 you see nothing but darkness, and a flood of troubles drowns you."

11 Or darkness, that thou canst not see; and abundance of waters cover thee.

(b) Spiritual sins: Living wickedly under the false pretense that divine judgment will never come (22:12-20)

12 "Is God not *in* the height of heaven? Look also at the highest stars, how high they are!

12 "Is not God *in* the height of heaven? Look also at the distant stars, how high they are!

12 "Isn't God in heaven above? Consider how far away the stars are, and how lofty they are!

12 Is not God in the height of heaven? and behold the height of the stars, how high they are!

13 "But you say, 'What does God know? Can He judge through the thick darkness?

13 "You say, 'What does God know? Can He judge through the thick darkness?

13 You've asked, 'What does God know? Can he sort through pitch black darkness?'

13 And thou sayest, How doth God know? can he judge through the dark cloud?

14 'Clouds are a hiding place for Him, so that He cannot see; And He walks on the vault of heaven.'

14 'Clouds are a hiding place for Him, so that He cannot see; And He walks on the vault of heaven.'

14 Thick clouds cover him so he can't see as he walks back and forth at heaven's horizon.

14 Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; and he walketh in the circuit of heaven.

15 "Will you keep to the ancient path Which wicked people have walked,

15 "Will you keep to the ancient path Which wicked men have trod,

15 "Will you keep walking on the traditional path that sinners have tread,

15 Hast thou marked the old way which wicked men have trodden?

16 Who were snatched away before their time, Whose foundations were washed away by a river?

16 Who were snatched away before their time, Whose foundations were washed away by a river?

16 who were snatched away before their time; when their foundation was swept away by a river?

16 Which were cut down out of time, whose foundation was overflowed with a flood:

17 "They said to God, 'Go away from us!' And 'What can the Almighty do to them?'

17 "They said to God, 'Depart from us!' And 'What can the Almighty do to them?'

17 They told God, 'Get away from us!' and 'What will the Almighty do to them?'

17 Which said unto God, Depart from us: and what can the Almighty do for them?

18 "Yet He filled their houses with good *things*; But the advice of the wicked is far from me.

18 "Yet He filled their houses with good *things*; But the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

18 "Though God fills their houses with good things, the counsel of the wicked will remain far from me.

18 Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

19 "The righteous see and are glad, And the innocent mock them, *saying*,

19 "The righteous see and are glad, And the innocent mock them,

19 The righteous will see this and rejoice; the innocent will insult him, *saying*,

19 The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn.

20 'Truly our enemies are eliminated, And fire has consumed their abundance.'

20 *Saying*, 'Truly our adversaries are cut off, And their abundance the fire has consumed.'

20 'Our enemies are sure to be destroyed, and fire will burn up what's left of their riches.'

20 Whereas our substance is not cut down, but the remnant of them the fire consumeth.

(iii) Job must repent in order to experience divine blessing (22:21-30)

21 "Be reconciled with Him, and be at peace; Thereby good will come to you.

21 "Yield now and be at peace with Him; Thereby good will come to you.

21 "Get to know God, and you'll be at peace with him, and then prosperity will come to you.

21 Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

22 "Please receive instruction from His mouth, And put His words in your heart.

22 "Please receive instruction from His mouth And establish His words in your heart.

22 Accept what he has to teach you, and treasure his words in your heart.

22 Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

23 "If you return to the Almighty, you will be restored; *If* you remove injustice far from your tent,

23 "If you return to the Almighty, you will be restored; If you remove unrighteousness far from your tent,

23 "If you return to the Almighty you'll be restored, as you remove iniquity from your household.

23 If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

24 And put *your* gold in the dust, And *the gold of Ophir* among the stones of the brooks,

24 And place *your* gold in the dust, And *the gold of Ophir* among the stones of the brooks,

24 Bury your gold nuggets in the dust, and your source of gold among the stones in a streambed,

24 Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

25 Then the Almighty will be your gold And abundant silver to you.

25 Then the Almighty will be your gold And choice silver to you.

25 and then the Almighty will be your gold and your refined silver.

25 Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

26 "For then you will take pleasure in the Almighty And lift up your face to God.

26 "For then you will delight in the Almighty And lift up your face to God.

26 "Then you'll take delight in the Almighty; and will turn your face toward God.

26 For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.

27 "You will pray to Him, and He will hear you; And you will pay your vows.

27 "You will pray to Him, and He will hear you; And you will pay your vows.

27 You'll entreat him and he'll listen to you as you fulfill your vows.

27 Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

28 "You will also decide something, and it will be established for you; And light will shine on your ways.

28 "You will also decree a thing, and it will be established for you; And light will shine on your ways.

28 When you make a decision on something, it will be established for you, and light will brighten your way.

28 Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

29 "When they have brought *you* low, you will speak with confidence, And He will save the humble person.

29 "When you are cast down, you will speak with confidence, And the humble person He will save.

29 "For when they're humbled, you may respond; 'It's their pride!' but he delivers the humble.

29 When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, There is lifting up; and he shall save the humble person.

30 "He will rescue one who is not innocent, And he will be rescued due to the cleanliness of your hands."

30 "He will deliver one who is not innocent, And he will be delivered through the cleanliness of your hands."

30 He'll even deliver the guilty, who will be delivered through your innocence."

30 He shall deliver the island of the innocent: and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.