

"DO THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFER, AND IF SO, WHY" [Part III]

Pastor Mark Johnson August 18, 2024

INTRO: Job had two really bad days costing him his wealth, his children (chap. 1) and his health (chap. 2), yet he maintained his integrity. Today we're going to take a brief look at the speeches of Job's three friends and Job's responses to those speeches in Job chapters 4-31.

The 1st Speech of Eliphaz (chapters 4-5).

- A. The record of the speeches is inspired, not all content.
- B. He felt he just had to say something (4:1-2).
- C. This time, you need to listen and learn (4:3-5).
- D. There must be sin in your life (4:7-8).
- E. God is chastening you (5:17).

•Job's Response to Eliphaz's 1st Speech (chapters 6-7).

- A. Job vents regarding his suffering (6:1; 7:3-7, 11, 16, 19).
- B. Job felt condemned by Eliphaz (6:14-15, 27).
- C. Job wanted answers but maintained his innocence (6:24-30).

•The 1st Speech of Bildad (chapters 8).

- A. Bildad: "You're suffering because of unrighteousness."
- •Job's Response to Bildad's 1st Speech (chapters 9-10).
- A. Who can be righteous before God?
- •The 1st Speech of Zophar (chapter 11).
- A. Zophar says Job's sin deserves even more suffering.
- •Job's Response to Zophar's 1st Speech (chapters 12-14).
- A. Job maintains his innocence and prays.
- •The 2nd Speeches of Eliphaz (15-17), Bildad (18-19), & Zophar (20-21) and Job's Responses are more of same.
- •The 3rd Speeches of Eliphaz (22-24) & Bildad (25-31) and Job's Responses are more of same.
- •SUFFERING & THE NEW COVENANT (1Cor. 12-13).
- A. We're called to belong to a body (1Cor. 12:12, 14, 27).
- B. We're called to care for one another (1Cor. 12:20, 25-26).
- C. We should be compassionate towards those who are suffering (1Cor. 13; see esp. vv. 1, 4-7).
- D. Don't think you understand everything about what another person is going through and why (1Cor. 13:9, 12)!

CONCLUSION: Persevere like Job in the midst of adversity!