

Learning and Living the Bible Together

Job 15-37

—> ***Was Job suffering, feeling alone, discouraged, and confused? Ever felt that way? Sure, all of us have felt that way at some point in our life. Notice his frustrations and feelings:***

- frustrated with counselors and insulted by them (16:1-5; 19:3; 26:1-4)
- desires comfort and relief (16:1-6)
- thinks God has shattered his life (16:7-14; 19:10-11,21; 23:16; 30:20-21)
- worn out, broken, discouraged (16:16; 17:1, 30:16)
- feels alone, rejected, humiliated (17:6; 19:13-14,19; 23:8-9; 30:1,9)
- has lost hope and dreams (17:11,15)
- confused (21:6-30; 24:12)
- longs for days past when all was well for him (29:2-25)
- in pain and suffering (30:30)
- declares his faith in God and holds on to Who God is (19:25-26; 23:13-15; 26:9-14; 28:23-28)
- declares he is upright and of integrity (16:17; 23:10-12; 27:4-6; 31:1-6)
- wants to make his case before God (23:3-6; 31:7-40)

—> ***Were Job's friends helpful and how did they react as the conversation continued with Job?***

- * critical (15:4-5)
- * insulting (18:1-4; 19:3)
- * accusatory (22:5-11)
- * speaking for God (22:23)
- * more and more argumentative throughout his suffering

PLEASE NOTE: Avoid their behavior. Be patient, pray, listen to the hurt. Too often, we are quick to judge or offer a solution. Patiently offer comfort and then counsel after prayer.

—> ***Note the words of a new counselor, Elihu. Elihu was fed up with Job and his three “friends”. See his words of wisdom.***

- rebukes Job for declaring his righteousness before God (32:2; 33:9-12; 34:5-6)
- rebukes Job’s friends for condemnation of Job with no facts (32:3)
- reminds us:
 - God does not have to give us answers (33:13)
 - God works in our lives because we need it (33:14-30)
 - Our righteousness is never good enough and deserving of special treatment. God is not accountable to us. (35:1-14)
 - God is perfectly just in all He does (34:12)
 - Worship and fear God (36:24-37:24)