JOB 20 vs 1



Little is known about Job, but what we do know it that Job was a real person -- mentioned in Ezekiel 14; and James 5. To help us understand what speculative wisdom was being exchanged among these 4 friends, I went to the end of the book, to hear its conclusion, and we read: the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My anger is ignited against you, and against your two friends: for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has. These 4 friends were clueless to what brought them together; so their guesses and rumors run freely through the pages dressed in friendship.



Zophar's Sermon on the Wicked Man,

- ¹ Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said:
- ² So my anxious thoughts make me answer, Because of the turmoil within me.
- ³I have heard the rebuke that reproaches me, And the spirit of my understanding causes me to answer. / but did Zophar have a bad spirit?
- ⁴ Do you not know this of old, Since man was placed on earth,
- ⁵That the triumphing of the wicked is short, And the joy of the hypocrite is but for a moment?
- ⁶ Though his haughtiness mounts up to the heavens, And his head reaches to the clouds,
- ⁷ Yet he will perish forever like his own refuse; and those who knew him will say, Where is he?
- ⁸ He will fly away like a dream, and not be found; Yes, he will be chased away like a vision of the night.
- ⁹ The eye that saw him will see him no more, Nor will his place behold him anymore.
- ¹⁰ His children will seek the favor of the poor, And his hands will restore his wealth.
- ¹¹ His bones are full of his youthful vigor, but will lie down with him in the dust.
- 12 Though evil is sweet in his mouth, And he hides it under his tongue,
- ¹³ Though he spares it and does not forsake it, but still keeps it in his mouth,
- ¹⁴ Yet his food in his stomach turns sour; It becomes cobra venom within him.

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- ¹⁵ He swallows down riches And vomits them up again; God throws them out of his belly.
- ¹⁶ He will suck the poison of cobras; The viper's tongue will slay him.
- ¹⁷ He will not see the streams, The rivers flowing with honey and cream.
- ¹⁸ He will restore that for which he labored, And will not swallow it down; from the proceeds of business He will get no enjoyment.
- ¹⁹ For he has oppressed and forsaken the poor, He has violently seized a house which he did not build.
- ²⁰ Because he knows no quietness in his heart, He will not save anything he desires.
- ²¹ Nothing is left for him to eat; so his well-being will not last.
- ²² In his self-sufficiency he will be in distress; every hand of misery will come against him.
- 23 When he is about to fill his stomach, God will throw on him the fury of His wrath, and will rain it on him while he is eating.
- ²⁴ He will flee from the iron weapon; yet a bronze bow will pierce him through.
- ²⁵ It is drawn, and comes out of the body; Yes, the glittering point comes out of his gall.

Terrors come upon him;

- ²⁶ Total darkness is reserved for his treasures. An unfanned fire will consume him; It will go ill with him who is left in his tent.
- 27 The heavens will reveal his crime, And the earth will rise up against him.
- ²⁸ The increase of his house will depart, And his goods will fly away in the day of His wrath.
- ²⁹ This is the portion from God for a wicked man, The heritage appointed to him by God.

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