**THE BOOK OF JOB**

**LESSON 4 - JOB TELLS GOD: MY SUFFERING IS COMFORTLESS. BILDAD SAYS: JOB SHOULD REPENT.**

**(JOB 7-8)**

**DAYS ONE AND TWO** - Read Job 7:1-21 (Job says: My Suffering is Comfortless)

1. a. How does Job lament the human condition to God in verses 1-2?

*Answer here*

b. What is his life like now in verse 3?

*Answer here*

2. How does King Solomon in Ecclesiastes 1:3, mirror this feeling about the “futility of life” that Job is also experiencing in this chapter?

*Answer here*

3. What further details do we get in Job 7:4 about his *wearisome nights*?

*Answer here*

4. What terrible details do we then learn about Job’s body in verse 5?

*Answer here*

5. a. In verses 6-10, what stands out to you about the futility of the remaining *days* of this poor man, since life is brief?

*Answer here*

b. What does James 4:14 add about our lives?

*Answer here*

6. Back in Job, on the basis of all that he has said to God so far in this chapter, *Therefore,* what does he now say in verse 11?

*Answer here*

7. As Job had no power like *the sea or the sea* *serpent* to escape God, why did he long for death, especially during the nights in verses 13-15?

*Answer here*

8. What does Job say about his life in verses 16?

*Answer here*

9. How does Job question God’s interest in him in verses 17-19?

*Answer here*

10. a. What honest questions does Job then ask God in verses 20?

*Answer here*

b. How does Job concede that he must have sinned for God to treat him this way in verse 21?

*Answer here*

**DAYS THREE THRU FIVE** - Read Job 8:1-22 (Bildad says: Job Should Repent)

1. Can you imagine a counselor with a man who wants to die, who starts out by saying his words have been like an empty windbag? How does verse 2 put it?

*Answer here*

2. How did Bildad see Job’s claims of innocence and conclude that he was accusing God of injustice in verse 3?

*Answer here*

3. How would this “so-called” friend have made Job feel by his words in verse 4, in light of what had happened in Job 1:19?

*Answer here*

4. Then, what two *“if”* statement did Bildad make against Job in verses 5-6?

*Answer here*

5. What did Bildad say in Job 18:13, revealing his belief that the wicked are punished by skin diseases?

*Answer here*

6. What did Bildad say back in Job 8:7, that would come true in Job 42:10?

*Answer here*

7. a. As Bildad appeals to ancient traditions of the fathers in Job 8:8, what does he say about what life was like in verses 9 and 10?

*Answer here*

b. What did Jesus say in Matthew 15:3 about the traditions of men not always being true?

*Answer here*

8. a. What is not true about the tradition that all suffering is only because of sin in our lives, according to 1 Peter 2:20b?

*Answer here*

b. What does Romans 8:18 add about suffering from the apostle Paul?

*Answer here*

9. Back in Job 8:11-12, what illustration of cause and effect in nature, does Bildad use, to prove that Job had forgotten God and had no hope because he was a hypocrite?

*Answer here*

10. How does verse 13 suggest that Job has no hope, because he has forgotten God?

*Answer here*

11. As Bildad moved from plants to spiders in verses 14-15, what would happen to Job's *confidence* and *trust* in this example?

*Answer here*

12. How do verses 16-18 tell us that Bildad thought something was happening to Job's "root system," thinking he was fading away, because of sin?

*Answer here*

13. a. How did Bildad offer hope for Job in verses 19-22, if only he could be blameless?

*Answer here*

b. What had God Himself already declared about Job in Job 1:8?

*Answer here*

14. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 and 1 Peter 2:21-23 to share the greatest example of One who was blameless and yet was *forsaken by God* for a short time as He suffered and died.

*Answer here*

15. What does James 5:13a tell us to do first, whenever we are suffering?

*Answer here*

**DISSCUSSION:** How was Bildad actually teaching the health and wealth, prosperity gospel as so many churches are doing today, giving no place for suffering by the righteous?

*Answer here*