

## Part 22 – The Sovereignty of Our God-The Book of Job

### Job's Sorry Comforters

#### Job 16:1-22

**Job 16** <sup>1</sup> Then Job answered,  
<sup>2</sup> "I have heard many such things;  
**Sorry comforters are you all.**

*"comforters of trouble"; i.e. comforters who increase trouble instead of relieving it*

<sup>3</sup> "Is there no limit to **windy words**?

*Heb "words of wind."*

Or what plagues **you that you answer?**

**Plagues**- the word means "to compel; to force" Where Job is saying, "What does reproof from you prove?"

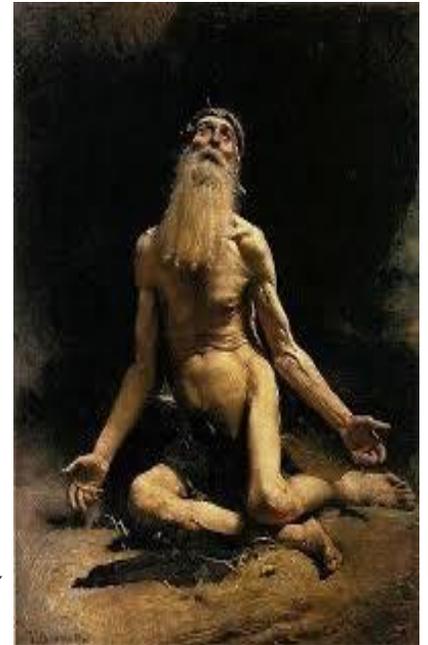
*The LXX seems to have gone a different way: "What, is there any reason in vain words, or what will hinder you from answering?"*

**Job 12:12-13** Wisdom is **with aged men,**

With long life is understanding.

<sup>13</sup> **With Him** are wisdom and might;

**To Him** belong counsel and understanding.



**Job 16:4 ff**

<sup>4</sup> "I too could speak like **you**,  
If I were in **your** place.  
I could compose words against **you**  
And shake my head at **you**.

The shaking of the head was a sign of mockery in the east:

**Psalms 22:7** All who see me taunt me; they mock me and shake their heads.

**Job 6:14** "For the despairing man **there should be kindness from his friend**; So that he does not forsake the fear of the Almighty.

**Job 16:5 ff**

<sup>5</sup> "**I could strengthen you with my mouth,** *strengthen is fortify*  
And the solace of my lips could lessen your pain. *Job's words would bring them some relief.*

<sup>6</sup> "**If I speak,** my pain is not lessened, *lessened-soothed*  
And **if** I hold back, what has left me?

<sup>7</sup> "But now **He** has **exhausted me;** .  
**You** have laid waste all my **company.** *Company is household*

<sup>8</sup> **You** have **shriveled** me up, *shriveled-it means "to seize; to grasp." By God's*

*seizing him, Job means his afflictions*

**It** has become a witness;

*Job's devastation is his witness, that's*

*THE "IT" here in this context*

And my leanness rises up against me,

**It** testifies to my face.

*Job's leanness and witness is the "IT" and it is*

*testifying against him here*

<sup>9</sup> **His anger** has torn me and **hunted** me down,

**He has gnashed** at me with **His teeth**;

**My adversary glares** at me.

*These pronouns in verse 9 ("his anger...he has gnashed...his teeth") are referring to God.*

**Glares-** here it means "to look intently" as an animal looks for prey.

<sup>10</sup> **They** have gaped at me with **their mouth**,

**They** have slapped me on the cheek with contempt;

**They** have massed themselves against me. *The term has a military connotation, Job*

*sees himself surrounded by enemies who persecute him and mock him here*

<sup>11</sup> "God hands me over to ruffians

And tosses me into the hands of the wicked.

<sup>12</sup> "I was at ease, but **He shattered** me, *to dash into pieces*  
And He has grasped me by the neck and shaken me to pieces;  
**He has also set me up as His target.**

<sup>13</sup> "**His arrows** surround me. *another translation has 'Archers'*  
Without mercy **He** splits my kidneys open;  
**He** pours out my gall on the ground.

**Job 6:4** <sup>4</sup> "For the arrows of the Almighty are within me,  
Their poison my spirit drinks;  
The terrors of God are arrayed against me.

<sup>14</sup> "He breaks through me with **breach after breach**;  
He runs at me like a warrior.

<sup>15</sup> "I have sewed sackcloth over my skin  
And thrust my horn in the dust.

<sup>16</sup> "My face is flushed from weeping,  
**And deep darkness is on my eyelids,**  
*a figure of speech synecdoche in which a part is made to represent the whole or vice versa*

<sup>17</sup> Although there is no violence in my hands,  
And my prayer is pure.

<sup>18</sup> "O earth, do not cover my blood,

And let there be no resting place for my cry.

*Job knows that he will die, and that his death, signified here by blood on the ground, will cry out for vindication. Because Job's soul life is in his blood:*

**Leviticus 17:11** For the **life** (*soul*) of the flesh **is in the blood**, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement **for your souls**; for it is the **blood by reason of the life** (*soul*) that makes atonement.'

Cross reference:

**Genesis 9:4** Only you shall not eat flesh with its **life, that is, its blood.**

### **Job 16:19 ff**

<sup>19</sup> "Even now, behold, my **witness** is in heaven,

*The word is simply "a place," but in the context it surely means a hidden place, a secret place that would never be discovered.*

And **my advocate** is on high.

*The parallelism now uses the Aramaic word "my advocate"—the one who testifies on my behalf.*

### **(1 John 2:1)**

*quote:*

*Assertions without evidence can be dismissed without evidence.*

<sup>20</sup> "My friends are my scoffers;

My eye weeps to God.

<sup>21</sup> "O that a man might plead with God

As a man with his neighbor!

<sup>22</sup> "For when **a few years are past**, *The expression is "years of number," meaning that they can be counted, and so "the years are few." The verb simply means "comes" or "lie ahead."*

I shall go the way of no return.

*The verbal expression "I will not return" serves here to modify the journey that he will take. It is "the road [of] I will not return."*

### **Additional sections on God's Sovereignty:**

Section from Daniel 4 when Daniel is interpreting Nebuchadnezzar' dream:

Daniel 4:25-26 ... and seven periods of time will pass over you, until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes. And in that it was commanded to leave the stump with

the roots of the tree, your kingdom will be assured to you after you recognize that it is Heaven that rules.

Vs. 32 ...you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes.'

Vs. 34-35 (*Nebuchadnezzar's prayer*)

But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever;

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

"All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,

But He does according to His will in the host of heaven

And among the inhabitants of earth;

And no one can ward off His hand

Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'