

**Part 28 – The Sovereignty of Our God-The Book of Job
The Abundant Life of The Wicked-**

Why Do Good Things Happen to Wicked People?

Job 21:1-34

Psalms 145:9 The Lord is good to **all**, And His mercies are over **all** His works.

Matthew 5:45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on **the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.**

Luke 6:35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for **He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.**



Job 32:3-4 And his anger burned against his three friends because they had found **no answer**, and yet had condemned Job. ⁴ **Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job because they were years older than he.**

Formal legal definition of the principle of retribution:

Principle of retribution is the law of retaliation, under which punishment should be in kind. Everyone is to be punished alike in proportion to the gravity of his/her offense or to the extent to which s/he has made others suffer. For example, an eye for an eye or a tooth for a tooth and so on but no more.

What these 3 are bringing out in the principle: from Part 13:

It promotes, that God ALWAYS gives great, favourable outcomes to the GOOD and godly in life,and the evil, they ALWAYS get really bad outcomes in their lives, because they are the ungodly and wicked.

Sincerity AND DECEIT are intrinsically linked.

Ecclesiastes 4:12b A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.

It is talking about a 3-fold chord in a work relationship.

The importance of being a good listener:

Job 13:1 "Behold, my eye has seen all this,

My ear has heard and understood it.

**6 "Please hear my argument
And listen to the contentions of my lips.**

Job pleading to be listened to

Covering 3 main pointed rhetorical questions.

So, verses 1-5 is an introduction about the importance of listening:

Job's 3 main rhetorical questions that he poses:

1. Why do the wicked flourish and live with prosperity?

Verses 7-13

2. Why do the wicked and their offspring live long, even while they reject God?

Verses 14-26

3. Why do the wicked seem NOT to get any repayment in the present for their wickedness, rather they get notoriety?

Verses 27-34

Quotes:

"The biggest communication problem is we do not listen **to understand**.

We listen **to reply**."

— **Stephen R. Covey**

"I don't listen to what you speak, I listen to what you don't speak.

(referencing walking our talking)

Job 21 ¹ Then Job answered,

² **“Listen carefully** to my speech, *intense appeal-The infinitive absolute intensifies the imperative, which serves here with the force of an immediate call to attention.*
(NET)

And let this be your way of **consolation**. *The listening carefully*

Job 13:5-6 O that you would be completely silent,

And that it would become your wisdom!

⁶ **“Please hear my argument**

And **listen** to the contentions of my lips

If you are not listening, you will seldom be able to love and serve effectively.

Job 21³ **“Bear with me** that I may speak; *to endure, to tolerate*

Then after I have spoken, you may mock.

⁴ **“As for me, is my complaint to man?**

And why should I not be impatient?

⁵ **“Look at me,** and be astonished,

And **put your hand over your mouth**.

⁶ **“Even when I remember, I am disturbed,**

And horror takes hold of my **flesh**.

1. Why do the wicked flourish and live with prosperity?

Verse 7-13

⁷ "Why do the wicked **still live**, why do they *continue to live* and grow old?
Continue on, also become very powerful?

Job 20:11 His bones are full of his youthful vigor,
But it lies down with him in the dust.

(NET) note: This line means that he dies prematurely—at the height of his youthful vigor.

7a "Why do the wicked **still live**,

7b Continue on, also become very powerful?

Job 20:5 That the triumphing of the wicked is short,
And the joy of the godless momentary?

Job 21: ⁸ "Their *(the wicked's)* **descendants are established** with them in their sight, And their offspring before their eyes,

⁹ Their houses are **safe** from fear, *they have peace and safety*
And the **rod of God is not on them.**

Job 9:34 "Let Him remove His rod from me,
And let not dread of Him terrify me.

Job 21: ¹⁰ "His ox mates without fail;

His cow calves and does not abort.

¹¹ "They send forth their little ones like the flock,

And their children skip about.

¹² "**They sing** to the timbrel and harp

And rejoice at the sound of the flute.

¹³ "**They spend their days in prosperity,**

And suddenly they go down to Sheol.

Job 20:21 "Nothing remains for him to devour,

Therefore **his prosperity does not endure.**

2. Why do the wicked and their offspring live long, even while they reject God? Verse 14-26

Job 21: ¹⁴ "**They say to God,** 'Depart from **us!**

We do not even desire the knowledge of Your ways.

¹⁵ 'Who is the Almighty, that **we** should serve Him,

And what **would we gain** if **we** entreat Him?'

¹⁶ "Behold, **their prosperity is not in their hand;**

The counsel of the wicked is far from me.

Job 30:15 "Terrors are turned against me;

They pursue my honor as the wind,

And my prosperity has passed away like a cloud.

Job 21: ¹⁷ "How often is the lamp of the wicked put out,

(How often) Or does their calamity fall on them?

(How often) Does God apportion **destruction** in His anger?

Physical agony

¹⁸ *(How often)* "Are they as straw before the wind,

And like chaff which the storm carries away?

¹⁹ "You say, 'God stores away a man's iniquity for his sons.'

Let God repay him so that he may know it.

²⁰ "Let his own eyes see his decay,

And let him drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

²¹ "For what does he care for his household after him,

When the number of his months is cut off?

²² "Can anyone teach God knowledge,

In that He judges those on high?

²³ "**One dies** in his full strength,

Being wholly at ease and satisfied;

²⁴ His sides are filled out with **fat**,

"pressed olives"="well nourished"

And the marrow of his bones is moist,

"really healthy"

²⁵ **While another** dies with a bitter soul,

Never even tasting anything good.

He missed out on the "good" life.

²⁶ **“Together** they lie down in the dust, And worms cover them.

3. Why do the wicked seem NOT to get any repayment in the present for their wickedness, rather they get notoriety?

Verses 27-34

²⁷ “Behold, I know your thoughts,

And the plans by which **you would wrong me.**

*Job knew they were talking
about him the whole time*

²⁸ “For you say, ‘Where is the house of the nobleman,
And where is the tent, the dwelling places of the wicked?’

²⁹ “Have you not asked wayfaring men,
And do you not recognize their witness?

³⁰ “For the wicked is reserved for the day of calamity;
They will be led forth at the day of fury.

³¹ “Who will confront him with his actions,
And who will repay him for what he has done?

³² **“While he is carried to the grave,
Men will keep watch over his tomb.**

³³ “The clods of the valley will gently cover him;
**Moreover, all men will follow after him,
While countless ones go before him.**

³⁴ “How then will you vainly comfort me,
For your answers remain full of falsehood?”

Quote:

*A man dies when he refuses to **stand up for that which is right.***

*A man dies when he refuses to **stand up for justice.***

*A man dies when he refuses to **take a stand for that which is true.***

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr