

**Part 29 – The Sovereignty of Our God-The Book of Job**  
**ROUND THREE – Eliphaz –**

**The Final Outcome of False Theology is Deceit & Lies**

**Job 22:1-34**

**Job 2:11** <sup>11</sup> Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, they came each one from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together **to come to sympathize with him and comfort him.**

*(NET) The verb is "to show grief: and literally signifies the "Shaking of the head"*

*(To Comfort-KJV) the second infinitive this word may be derived from a word with a meaning of sighing deeply.*



**Matthew 23:15** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, **you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.**

**Definition of a Rhetorical Question**

*Have you heard anyone say to you, 'Nice weather, isn't it?'* You may agree, but the implication is that **you're supposed to agree**, because they **have already told you the answer** - that the weather is nice. This is a basic example of a rhetorical question. A **rhetorical question** is a device used **to persuade or subtly influence the audience**. It's a question asked **not for the answer**, but for **the effect**.

Oftentimes, a rhetorical question is used to emphasize a point or just to get the audience thinking. Sometimes, a rhetorical question is asked with the asker already knowing the answer, such as the weather example. Other times, the question asked is unanswerable, such as 'Will corruption ever cease?' However, according to the asker, it should be obvious that corruption will never cease.

Here's a fun fact: A famous printer from the 16th century, Henry Denham, invented the rhetorical question mark, which was a question mark facing the opposite direction. However, it

never became a permanent punctuation mark in the English language.

**Purpose and Effect in Literature**

*In literature, rhetorical questions can be a very powerful persuasive or thought-provoking tool. They can be humorous, obvious, or reflective.*

**Job 1:1** There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was **blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil**.

**Job 1:8** The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For **there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil.**"

**1. So Eliphaz's FIRST BIG statement and implied LIE here is, can any man, (specifically Job of course), actually please God AT ALL?**

The implied answer and lie being, was the assumed answer of -- **"NO"**.

**Job 22** <sup>1</sup> Then Eliphaz the Temanite responded,

**Q1:** <sup>2a</sup> "Can a vigorous man be of use to God, *implied answer* "no"

**Q2:** <sup>2b</sup> Or a wise man be useful to himself? *implied answer* "no"

"Why would God need you Job anyway?", that maybe what is in Eliphaz's mind here, and the answer he would expect from Job, would be of course be "NO"? I mean God is SOVEREIGN after all! Sound religious? Absolutely, but dead wrong.

**Q3:** <sup>3a</sup> "Is there any **pleasure** to the Almighty if you are righteous, *special benefit*  
*implied answer again is "NO"*

**Q4:** <sup>3b</sup> Or profit if you make your ways **perfect**? *Be complete*  
*implied answer again is "NO"*

**Q5:** <sup>4</sup> "Is it because of your reverence that He reproveth you,  
That He enters into judgment against you?"

*implied answer again is "NO"*

in Job's situational context the answers ARE NOT "NO" here.

God is pointing out **His man** Job in 1:1, 1:8 and 2:3.

God pointed out Job to Satan, **because of his righteous living.**

The whole record is a depiction that living a blameless, upright life, and avoiding evil **does please God**

## **2. Next, Eliphaz's SECOND BIG statement and LIE is the assumption that Job has sinned against God**

Now the answer to these rhetorical questions have taken a turn in Eliphaz's mind, now the assumed answer is "YES", not "NO"

**Q6:** <sup>5</sup> "Is not your wickedness **great**,  
And your iniquities without end?"

*abundant*

*(Endless sin)*

*implied answer from Eliphaz is now "YES"*

*Job's answer would be "NO"*

<sup>6</sup> “For **you** have taken pledges of **your** brothers **without cause**, *no reason*  
And stripped men naked.

*(NET) So either he made them naked by stripping their garments off, or they were already in rags.*

Note the personal pronouns pointing now directly to Job and not the wider group of the “wicked”.

**Job 22:** <sup>7</sup> “To the **weary you** have given no water to drink, *the fainting*  
And from the hungry **you** have withheld bread.

*Referenced Matthew 25:*

**Matthew 25:35** *For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;*

**Job 22:** <sup>8</sup> “But the earth belongs to the **mighty** man, *powerful*  
And the **honorable man** dwells in it.

**Job 1:3b** and that man was the greatest **of all the men of the east.**

**Job 22:**<sup>9</sup> “**You** have sent widows away empty,  
And the strength of the orphans has been crushed.

<sup>10</sup> **“Therefore** snares surround **you,**

And sudden dread terrifies **you,**

<sup>11</sup> Or darkness, so that **you** cannot see,

And an abundance of water covers **you.**

**John 8:44** You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is **no truth in him**. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, **for he is a liar and the father of lies.**

**Job 4:12-18** “Now a word was brought to **me** stealthily,

And **my** ear received a whisper of it.

<sup>13</sup> “Amid disquieting thoughts from the visions of the night,

When deep sleep falls on men,

<sup>14</sup> Dread came upon **me**, and trembling,

And made all **my** bones shake.

<sup>15</sup> “Then a spirit passed by **my face**;

The hair of **my flesh** bristled up.

<sup>16</sup> “It stood still, but **I** could not discern its appearance;

A form was before **my eyes**;

There was silence, then **I heard a voice**:

<sup>17</sup> **‘Can mankind be just before God?**

**Can a man be pure before his Maker?**

<sup>18</sup> 'He puts no trust even in His servants;  
And against His angels He charges error.

### **3. Eliphaz's next BIG statement and LIE is the lie that Job is trying to hide from God.**

**Job 7:8** The eye of him who sees me will behold me no longer;  
Your eyes will be on me, but I will not be.

Reference the following verses:

**Job 28:24** *For He looks to the ends of the earth And **sees everything under the heavens.***

**Job 10:4** *Have You eyes of flesh? Or do You see as a man sees?*

**Job 10:14** *If I sin, then You would **take note of me**, And would not acquit me of my guilt.*

**Job 11:11** *"For He knows false men, And **He sees** iniquity without investigating.*

**Job 22:** <sup>12</sup> "Is not God in the height of heaven?

Look also at the distant stars, how high they are!

<sup>13</sup> "**You say**, 'What does God know?

Can He judge through the thick darkness?

<sup>14</sup> 'Clouds are a hiding place for Him, so that He **cannot see**; *"us"-implied object*  
And He walks on **the vault** of heaven.' *The dome that covers the earth*

<sup>15</sup> "Will **you** keep to the ancient path  
Which wicked men have trod,

<sup>16</sup> Who were snatched away before their time,  
Whose foundations were washed away by a river?

*(NET) 16 men who were carried off before their time, when the flood was poured out on their foundations*

<sup>17</sup> "They said to God, 'Depart from us!'

And 'What can the Almighty do **to them**?' *a number of trans: have "to us"*

<sup>18</sup> "Yet He filled their houses with good things;  
But the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

<sup>19</sup> "The righteous see and are glad,  
And the innocent mock them,

<sup>20</sup> Saying, 'Truly our adversaries are cut off,  
And their abundance the fire has consumed.'

<sup>21</sup> "**Yield** now and be at **peace** with Him; *2 imperatives*  
Thereby good will come to **you**.

<sup>22</sup> "**Please receive** instruction from His mouth  
And establish His words in your heart.

<sup>23</sup> "**If you** return to the Almighty, **you** will be restored; *healed*  
**If you** remove unrighteousness far from **your** tent,

<sup>24</sup> And place **your** gold in the dust,  
And the gold of Ophir among the stones of the brooks,

<sup>25</sup> Then the Almighty will be **your** gold

And choice silver **to you**.

<sup>26</sup> "For then **you will** delight in the Almighty

And lift up **your** face to God.

<sup>27</sup> "**You will** pray to Him, and He will hear **you**;

And **you will** pay **your** vows.

<sup>28</sup> "**You will** also decree a thing, and it will be established for **you**;

And light will shine on **your** ways.

<sup>29</sup> "When **you** are cast down, **you will** speak with confidence,

And the **humble person** He will save.

<sup>30</sup> "He will deliver one who is not innocent,

And he will be delivered through the cleanness of your hands."