

JOB'S RESPONSE TO MISERY

Dialogue, Part 2, Chapters 9-19

References

1. *Job, A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*, Marvin H. Pope, Professor of Northwest Semitic Languages, Yale University, 1965
2. *Job, A New Translation*, Edward L. Greenstein, Professor Emeritus of Bible, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, 2019

Job's Response to Bildad (9:1-10:22)

1. In a lawsuit with God, God holds every advantage (9:1-35)
2. Job speaks to God again; expresses preference for nonexistence (10:1-22)

Zophar's First Discourse (11:1-20)

1. Job is so full of talk, he cannot be vindicated (11:1-6)
2. Who can know the limit of the almighty? (11:7-12)
3. Direct your heart rightly and your misery will pass away (11:13-20)

Job's Response (12:1-14:22)

1. Job addresses his friends (12:1-13:19)
 - a. Job shows that he too is well versed in conventional wisdom (12:1-13)
 - b. A parody of a hymn (12:14-25)
 - c. Job wants to bring his case directly to God (13:1-19)
2. Job addresses God (13:20-14:22)
 - a. Job asks that God allow him to plead his case (13:20-28)
 - b. A mortal is insubstantial; why is God hostile? (14:1-22)

Eliphaz's Second Discourse (15:1-35)

1. Job's claim of a revelation from the divine council is offensive (15:1-6)
2. Job thinks too highly of himself (15:7-16)
3. Evil is necessarily self-destructive (15:17-35)

Job's Response (16:1-17:16)

1. Job regards the words of his friends as meaningless rote responses (16:1-5)
2. In Job's view he is a victim of divine violence (16:6-17:2)
3. Job calls his friends to explain how there could be hope in this (17:3-16)

Bildad's Second Discourse (18:1-21)

1. Job's anger is hurting only himself (18:1-4)
2. The dismal fate of the wicked (18:5-21)

Job's Response (19:1-29)

1. Job insists that God has dealt unfairly with him (19:1-12)
2. Job has been alienated from his friends and family (19:13-22)
3. Job is certain he will see God for himself (19:23-29)