

JOB'S RESPONSE TO MISERY

Dialogue, Part 1, Chapters 3-11

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 Opening Discourse (3:1-26; 4:12-21)

1. Job curses the day he was born (3:3-10)
2. Job's lament (3:11; 16; 12-15; 17-26)
3. Job's revelation (4:12-21)

Eliphaz's First Discourse (4:1-11; 5:1-27)

1. Eliphaz expresses understanding and concern (4:1-6)
2. But he believes in just retribution (4:7-11)
3. Mortals inevitably get into trouble (5:1-7)
4. Hope for mortals lies in the greatness of God (5:8-16)
5. Suffering may be divine discipline (5:17-27)

Job's Response to Eliphaz (6:1-7:21)

1. Job's suffering far outweighs any offenses he may have committed (6:1-13)
2. The words of Eliphaz amount to moral betrayal (6:14-30)
3. Life is hard and short; no time for patience (7:1-6)
4. Job addresses God directly; God should intervene before it is too late (7:7-21)

Bildad's First Discourse (8:1-22)

1. God does not distort justice; maybe Job's children sinned (8:1-10)
2. Cause and effect; God rewards the righteous and punishes the wicked (8:11-22)

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)