



INTRODUCTION: (25:1-6) We come to the point where Job and his friends are both hardened in their positions. They have become unmovable in their stand.

- 1) Bildad extols the greatness of God.
- 2) Bildad exposes the nothingness of man.

Jesus allowed himself to become as low as a worm so that man could be looked at as righteous before the Father, when He took our sins to Calvary.

Psalm 22:6, "But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people."

"He felt himself to be comparable to a helpless, powerless, down trodden worm, passive while crushed, unnoticed and despised by those who trod upon him." – Matthew Henry

Job probably would have been better off if he hadn't responded at all.

Prov 26:4, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him."

Titus 3:9, "But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain."

In chapter 26, Job again draws the attention back to the infinite power of God (26:7, 13-14). Verse 14 tells us that this is merely the beginning of His Creation.

The power that God used in Creation is merely a whisper from God. God merely whispered his power at Creation, but He later shouts His love at Calvary.

Chapter 28 draws us back to the awesome wisdom of God (28:12-13, 28).

I. JOB LOOKS BACKWARD TO THE MEMORIES (JOB 29)

A. JOB'S PAST HAPPINESS (JOB 29:1-6)

(29:1-3) There is a temptation for all of us who have reached a certain point in life to want to go back to the "good ole days". Some say that the "good ole days" are a combination of a bad memory and a good imagination. But in Job's case, the past actually was better (29:4-6).

B. JOB'S PAST HONOR (JOB 29:7-25)

(29:7-8) He remembered days when he would go downtown to the public square and had friends that would desire to sit with him.

(29:13) Job recalls the days in which he was able to help those in need.

(29:21-22) Job remembers a time when if there would be a debate like this one, what Job said was the final word on the matter.

II. JOB LOOKS OUTWARD TO THE MISERIES (JOB 30)

A. JOB FEELS ABUSED BY HIS FRIENDS (JOB 30:1-18)

(30:1) The first two words show that Job is finally ready to move into the presence.

(30:8-9) This situation reminds us of how they treated the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:10, "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;"

Psalm 69:12, "They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I (Jesus) was the song of the drunkards."

B. JOB FEELS ABANDONED BY GOD (JOB 30:19-31)

There is an important change from verse 19 to verse 20. In verse 19 Job is talking about God. In verse 20 Job is talking to God.

III. JOB LOOKS UPWARD TO THE MYSTERIES (JOB 31)

A. THE MYSTERY OF UNREWARDED PIETY (JOB 31:1-34)

Some may have accused him of vanity or lies (31:5).

Some may have accused him of adultery (31:9-12).

Some might have accused him of mistreating his employees (31:13).

Some might have accused him of being unconcerned for the needy (31:16-23).

Some might have accused him of being greedy, selfish or unthankful (31:24-25).

Some might have accused him of pagan worship (31:26-27).

Some might have accused him of rejoicing over the misfortune of others (29-30).

Some might have accused him of having secret sin (31:33).

Why is Job going through this list? The answer is in verse 4.

B. THE MYSTERY OF UNANSWERED PRAYER (JOB 31:35-40)

(31:35) "That mine adversary had written a book," means that he wished God would make a legal document and list the charges that are against him.

(31:36) In Eastern Civilizations in ancient times, it was known for a person who was accused of a crime to have to wear a plank around his neck with an inscription of the crime on it.

(31:37) Job is saying that he'd stand before God and strut like a prince because of his innocence.

CONCLUSION: When your tragedy occurs what should we do?

- 1) Draw all the strength you can from the past and then let go of it.
- 2) Come to grip with your present circumstances. Do not live in denial.
- 3) Keep looking up and keep talking to God. It doesn't matter if it seems God is there or not.