

Lecture 25 – Job, III

*How I long for the months gone by,
For the days when God watched over me,
When his lamp shone upon my head
And by his light I walked through darkness! Job 29:2-3*

Key Terms

Three observations, final protest, Elihu's interruption

Lecture Objectives

- *Identify key theological perspectives on suffering presented in Job by Job and his friends.
- *Provide an initial response to each perspective based upon the story of Job itself.
- *Describe the place and function of Elihu in the development of Job.

Preliminary Questions

- *What is your first response in most situations to friends who are enduring a period of suffering? Why do you think you respond in that way?

Job, III**I. Job**

- A. Introductory matters
- B. A survey of the book of Job, with attendant questions
 - 1. The narrative introduction 1:1-2:10
 - 2. Job and his 'friends' 2:11-ch. 27 (28)
 - a. Narrative description of the friends arrival and 7 day vigil (2:11-13)
 - b. Job breaks the silence (ch. 3)
 - c. 3 cycles of dialogue (chs. 4-28).
 - 1) The theology of _____
 - 2) The narrow view of _____
 - 3) Job's final response to his friends (chs. 26-27[28])
 - *4) Theories of _____ and _____ in chs. 27-28.
 - a) 3 observations:
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____
 - b) Response:

Illustration: Chariots of Fire

- 3. Job turns to God in a final protest (chs. 29-31)
 - a. Longs for time of past blessedness
 - b. Last proclamation of innocence
 - c. Call to God to answer him
- 4. Elihu interrupts (32-37)
 - a. Secondary?
 - 1) Added later?
 - 2) God does not respond about Elihu
 - 3) Speech seems to interrupt Job's call for God to answer him
 - 4) Presupposes extensive knowledge of previous speeches

5) Adds nothing new to the discussion

From the book of Job, what application can be made about approaching God with our complaints? Does the book endorse complaining to God or not?