



WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Job 8

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the Bible at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Job 8.

Topics.

- Does God pervert justice? Or does the Almighty pervert the right?
- We are of yesterday and know nothing, for our days are a shadow.
- The trust of all who forget God is as a spider's web.
- God will not reject a blameless man, nor take the hand of evildoers.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION: the book of Job is considered both a theological and a literary masterpiece it is an honest discussion of why God allows good people to suffer. The test of Job's faith, allowed by God in response to a challenge from Satan, reveals God's sovereignty and the supremacy of divine wisdom over human wisdom (personified by Job's four friends). Believing that God is good despite the apparent evidence to the contrary, Job rested in faith alone. In the depths of agony, he could still proclaim, "I know that my Redeemer lives" (Job 19:25). In the end God silenced all discussion against the truth that He alone is wise (Job chpts. 38-41). Yet he vindicated Job's trust in him (chpt. 42), proving that genuine faith cannot be destroyed. The unknown author was probably an Israelite writing sometime between 2000 and 500 B.C.

HELPFUL FACTS: before reading Job, it is helpful to understand when Job, Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar and Elihu are speaking they are not speaking, "thus sayeth the LORD", they are simply giving their opinions on how they personally perceive things to be. Amongst their conversations there is truth and wisdom, but it must be kept in mind not everything they are saying is true or even wise, in fact God rebukes Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar and tells them they have spoken foolishness, but Job has spoken what is right (Job 42:7-9). The book of Job is not about doctrinal truth, but human suffering and the questions regarding God that arise during a person's calamity and pain.

1

BILDAD SPEAKS

JOB 8:1-7

Does God Pervert Justice? Or does the Almighty Pervert the Right?

- **Job 8:1-7:** Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said: ²"How long will you (Job) say these things, and the words of your mouth be a great wind? ³Does God pervert justice? Or does the Almighty pervert the right? ⁴If your children have sinned against him, he has delivered them into the hand of their transgression. ⁵If you will seek God and plead with the Almighty for mercy, ⁶if you are pure and upright, surely then he will rouse himself for you and restore your rightful habitation. ⁷And though your beginning was small, your latter days will be very great.

Bildad tells Job:

- All he has spoken is a waste of his breath, because justice demands that sinners are punished and the righteous are blessed and since God is a God of justice, He will not afflict the righteous or those that do good as Job has been afflicted, but rather bless them.

- The reason death has taken Job's children, is because of their wrongdoing.
- If he is righteous and has only done what is good and prays for God's mercy God will restore him and bless all his future days.

Bildad's mindset and underlying thought is that Job's children were destroyed because they sinned and if a person is blameless no harm will come to them, but this logic does not stand for the following two reasons:

1. Job was already blameless, upright, feared God and turned away from evil. God Himself confirms Job's righteousness, by saying, "there is none like Job a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" And even after Job had been tested and suffered greatly the LORD said, "Job even continues to hold fast his integrity even though I the LORD have almost destroyed him without reason" (Job 1:8) (Job 2:3). It should be highlighted that in this context blameless does not mean that Job was without sin, but that he was a decent man who did no harm to another human and that he helped the poor and did right before God. There has only ever been one man who walked on earth without sin before God and his name was not Job, but the Lord Jesus Christ. If any of us could attain to the glorious state of living a sin free life Christ died for no reason.
2. If Bildad's logic and underlying belief that God will punish and afflict whoever sins was true we would all be suffering and afflicted as Job was.

JOB 8:8-13

We are of Yesterday and Know Nothing, for our Days are a Shadow.

- **Job 8:8-13:** "For inquire, please, of bygone ages, and consider what the fathers have searched out. ⁹For we are but of yesterday and know nothing, for our days on earth are a shadow. ¹⁰Will they (the fathers of the OT) not teach you and tell you and utter words out of their understanding? ¹¹"Can papyrus grow where there is no marsh? Can reeds flourish where there is no water? ¹²While yet in flower and not cut down, they wither before any other plant. ¹³Such are the paths of all who forget God; the hope of the godless shall perish.

A papyrus cannot grow without a marsh, and reeds will not flourish without water and if they are not trimmed, they wither while other plants grow around them. Bildad is saying that this is the way of those who forget God, they will eventually perish, he is likening Job to the papyrus plant without a marsh, and to a reed without water. How amazingly unkind is this! Job has lost his family, is suffering extreme pain, is in despair and in deep depression and Elipaz instead of comforting him accuses him of forgetting God and being a great sinner.

JOB 8:14-19

The Trust of all who Forget God is as a Spider's Web.

- **Job 8:14-19:** His (those who forget God) (v12) confidence is severed, and his trust is a spider's web. ¹⁵He leans against his house, but it does not stand; he lays hold of it, but it does not endure. ¹⁶He is a lush plant before the sun, and his shoots spread over his garden. ¹⁷His roots entwine the stone heap; he looks upon a house of stones. ¹⁸If he is destroyed from his place, then it will deny him, saying, 'I have never seen you.' ¹⁹Behold, this is the joy of his way, and out of the soil others will spring.

The expression, "his trust is a spider's web," means that the confidence and trust of those who forget God is easily broken it carries the following three ideas:

- 1 Those who put God to the back of their mind to chase worldly riches, material possessions, success and fame soon find themselves trusting in their riches and wealth rather than in God.
- 2 Trust in worldly riches, material possessions, success and fame is easily broken (as is a spiders web) since they are temporal and can be taken at any moment.
- 3 Integrity and honesty is easily corrupted in those who do not acknowledge God and trust in their own self-effort, riches, success and fame.

The joy of those who set their confidence and trust in riches, material possessions, success and fame who forget God is taken like a flourishing plant before the sun that has its roots spreading throughout the garden until they hit solid stone and then wither and perish while other plants take seed in the soil, spring up and flourish and so the cycle of life in the garden continues. This is the way of those who deny God their joy last, but for a short moment and then they return to the dust of the earth and the darkness of the grave, while others are born and take their place and life under the sun continues on earth as it always has. A person who does not acknowledge God may grow up to be enormously powerful, successful and wealthy, this God says is their joy, but when death comes their power, success and wealth will not be able to help them, they will remain in the grave while others around them rise out of it. Bildad is basically saying that all Job's afflictions have come upon him because rather than trust in God he put his trust in his own self-effort, his riches, his wealth, his success and the good name he had throughout the land.

JOB 8:20-22

God will Not Reject the Blameless, nor Take the Hand of Evildoers.

3

- **Job 8:20-22:** "Behold, God will not reject a blameless man, nor take the hand of evildoers. ²¹He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, and your lips with shouting. ²²Those who hate you will be clothed with shame, and the tent of the wicked will be no more."

Bildad's words, "God will not reject a blameless man, nor take the hand of evildoers," is a true statement. Bildad's prophetic words concerning Job are truly amazing since they have two applications, a local application and an eternal fulfilment for Job.

1. When we get to the end of the story of Job, we see that God blesses Job with more than he had prior to his afflictions and he lived to a healthy old age.
2. Bildad's prophetic words take up wings and transcend time and history to arrive at the resurrection of Job and all the faithful when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to destroy the antichrist and his kingdom and establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign.

The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with

the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce (Isaiah 65:17-25). All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God.

The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

In Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

The great prophet Isaiah wrote:

- They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory. For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

FOOTNOTE

Always keep in mind that Bildad is not speaking, "Thus saith the LORD," but giving his own personal opinion concerning Job and his suffering and because it is his own viewpoint it should be remembered that even though much of what he says maybe true it does not always mean that his reasoning and suppositions are always according to the word of the LORD or right for Job's particular situation. (Job 32:6) (Job 32:10) (Job 32:17).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
