

Job 22- 24 'Your Kingdom Come'

1) The third cycle of speeches chapters 22 - 27

- Eliphaz accuses Job – 22: 1 - 20
 - i. Is not your wickedness great? 22: 4 - 11
 - ii. God knows everything about you 22: 12 – 20
- Eliphaz pleads with Job 22: 21 – 30
 - i. Submit to God and be at peace with him!
 - ii. If you return you will be restored
 - 1. You will know God's presence
 - 2. Your prayers will be heard
 - 3. You will get what you want – free from darkness and death
 - 4. You will be a blessing to others
 - iii. Job, "You are a sinner, repent"

2) Job's reply 23 - 24

- I want to find God to bring my complaint 23: 1 - 12
 - i. Where is he?
 - ii. Resurrection, Intercessor, Redeemer – I would be delivered
- God is terrifyingly sovereign 23: 13 - 17
 - i. The world is not as it is supposed to be
 - ii. Job longs for vindication and justice – 'Yet I am not silenced'
- Why doesn't God act 24: 1 - 17
 - i. God allows injustice 1 – 12
 - ii. God allows immorality 13 – 17
- The wicked will be punished 24: 18 - 24

Job 22 - 24

- A. Job refuses Eliphaz's theology. God has something more for us
- B. Job maintains his integrity – he continues to search for peace, joy and hope
- C. He is beginning to allow God to be God

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your Kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven

Digging Deeper

Read Job 26 - 27

1. In chapter 26: Over what is God sovereign?
2. Why does Job ask the question in verse 14? What does he want his friends to grasp?

Read Job 27: 1 - 12

1. Job's understanding of God's sovereignty impacts every part of his life. 'I will not deny my integrity' (v5). Job has spoken often about his personal integrity. What were some of the benefits and challenges caused by his integrity?
2. In verses 7 – 12 Job is asking his friends to consider what they have said in the light of God's power. 'I will teach you about the power of God.' What has been your experience of the power of God that you could teach others about?

Read Job 27: 13 - 23

The friends 'theology' has focused on a view that the world is only what we see. They seem to have no concept of eternity. Job's pursuit of God has given him a hope for something more. He recognises God's right to give and take away; (1: 20), he recognises that God has the right to bring good and trouble into our lives; (2: 10). He also points us to consider the possibility of eternity. An eternity of rich blessing for those who know God but also an eternity of devastating punishment for those who reject him.

1. In verses 13 – 23 What is the punishment the wicked will receive?
2. Look ahead to Job 28:28 – In what ways does this verse link with Job's choice to be a man of integrity?
3. What does Job 31 show us about what it means to shun evil? How had Job resolved to live?
3. How do we work towards living with integrity? What will the challenges and benefits be?