



WHEN GOD IS
SILENT
(The Book of Job)

Where Job's Friends Went Wrong

Job 4:1 - 7:21

REVIEW — Let's remember what we have learned ...

Job's Sorrow in the Midst of Silence 2:11-3:26

JOB'S COMFORTERS (His True Friends) 2:11-13

"Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity ..." v. 11

JOB'S CONFUSION (His Tormenting Frustrations) 3:1-26

"Afterward Job opened his mouth ..." v. 1

INTRODUCTION — The story of Job takes a bad turn ...

"Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered, ..." 4:1

LESSON — Where Job's Friends Went Wrong 4:1 — 7:21

I. THE SPEECHES — What Job's Friends Said Chapters 4-37

The Cycle — There is a speech then Job responds:

Session #1

Eliphaz (4-5)
Job (6-7)
Bildad (8)
Job (9-10)
Zophar (11)
Job (12-14)

Session #2

Eliphaz (15)
Job (16-17)
Bildad(18)
Job (19)
Zophar (20)
Job (21)

Session #3

Eliphaz (22)
Job (23-24)
Bildad(25)
Job (26)

Session #4

Job (27-31)
Elihu (32-37)

The Content — They all reach the same conclusion:

- ❑ God is in absolute **CONTROL**.
- ❑ God is **JUST** and **FAIR**.
- ❑ *Therefore*, God blesses **RIGHTEOUS** and punishes **WICKEDNESS**.

His friends have a rigid, cold, **CAUSE-and-EFFECT** theology.

(cf. John 9:1-2)

The Conclusion — Job has sinned, and God is punishing him:

- ❑ **JOB** is not impressed with their counsel. (Cf. 6:14-30; 12:2; 16:2-3; 26:2)
- ❑ **GOD** is not impressed with their counsel. (Cf. 42:7)

II. THE SPECIFICS — The 1ST Speech by Eliphaz & Job's Response Chp. 4-7

The Rigid Words of Eliphaz — Chapters 4-5

- ❑ He pretends to be **CONCERNED**. (4:1-6)
- ❑ He personally **CONDEMNS**. (4:7-11)
- ❑ He expresses proud **CONDESCENSION**. (4:12-21)
- ❑ He gives perverted **COUNSEL**. (5:1-27)

The Response of Job — Chapters 6-7

- ❑ To Eliphaz — 6:1-30
 1. He **APOLOGIZES** for his rash comments. (vs. 1-3)
 2. He **ADMITS** his real condition. (vs. 4-13)
 3. He **APPEALS** for real compassion. (vs. 14-23)
 4. He **ASKS** for real correction. (vs. 24-30)
- ❑ To God — 7:1-21
 1. He **MOURNS** his suffering. (vs. 1-5)
 2. He **MENTIONS** the shortness of his life. (vs. 6-16)
 3. He **MISSES** his communion with God. (vs. 17-21)

The application points ... How can we avoid the error of Eliphaz and assist the Job's in our lives?