

JOB'S TRIAL, ROUND 2: THE FIRST DEBATE WITH BILDAD
(Job 8 - 10)

- I. Bildad Misunderstood Job's View of the CHARACTER of GOD (Job 8)
 - A. Accused Job of MALIGNING God as UNJUST (8:3)
 - B. Asserted that SUFFERING is evidence of God's CHASTISEMENT (8:5-6)
 - C. Assumed Job's CHILDREN must have been WICKED (8:4)
 - D. Affirmed his position on the basis of TRADITION and RATIONALISM (8:8-10)

- II. Job's RESPONSE to Bildad (Job 9 - 10)
 - A. "I know that God must JUDGE EVIL" (9:1-2a)
 - B. "I know I am INNOCENT of BLATANT sin, but who am I to QUESTION God? How could I APPROACH Him?" (9:2b-3)
 - C. "I know God is WISE and POWERFUL" (9:4)
 - D. "God's CREATIVE acts prove He can DO ANYTHING" (9:5-12)
 - E. "God is so GREAT, how could I PREVAIL even if I had a CHANCE to present my CASE?" (9:13-14)
 - F. "Since God is my JUDGE, all I can do is plead for MERCY" (9:15-20)
 - G. "Even though I know BETTER, God still seems UNFAIR; if you are CORRECT, then God is UNJUST" (9:21-24)
 - H. "I feel DESPAIR, because my TIME is SHORT" (9:25-26)

- I. "I feel CONDEMNED no matter WHAT I DO" (9:27-31)
- J. "I feel I have no ADVOCATE to MEDIATE between God and me" (9:32-35)
- K. "Therefore, I will have to PLEAD my own CASE" (10:1)
- L. "I will ask God NOT to CONDEMN me" (10:2a)
- M. "I will ask Him to SHOW me what I've done WRONG" (10:2b)
- N. "I will ask Him WHY He is TREATING me like THIS" (10:3-7)
- O. "I will show the INCONSISTENCY of His DESTROYING one His own hands have MADE" (10:8-12)
- P. "God seems to be AGAINST ME" (10:13-17)
- Q. "I still wish I'd NEVER been BORN, or would have DIED at BIRTH, but since I'm ALIVE and MISERABLE, I'll ask God for a MOMENT of CHEER before I go to the GRAVE" (10:18-22)

III. Summary

- A. Job did not UNDERSTAND why he SUFFERED
- B. Job continued to BELIEVE in God's POWER and WISDOM
- C. Job expressed FAITH based on FACT, not just FEELING