



The Gospel According to Job

June 7: Eliphaz Accuses Job of Wickedness (Third Cycle): Job 22

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Are you more offended by your own sin or the sins of others?

Three Questions from Job:

1. Is God just?
2. Does God run the universe on a strict principle of justice?
3. How is Job's suffering to be explained?

Narrative Frame: Job 1-3

Job's Three Cycles in Dialogue:

1. Cycle One: Job 4-14
2. Cycle Two: Job 15-21
3. Cycle Three: Job 22-27

Wisdom Hymn: Job 28

Job's Three Series of Discourses:

1. Job: Job 29-31
2. Elihu: Job 32-37
3. Yahweh: Job 38-41

Narrative Frame: Job 42

Who are Job's three counselors? Which of the three is missing from this cycle?

What is the proper posture before God that this book suggests?

Job 22:1-5

Does a life of wisdom benefit us?

Ecclesiastes 7:11-12 Wisdom is good with an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.

Do we have anything to offer God from which He benefits?

What is Eliphaz's "obvious" diagnosis of Job's condition?

Job 22:6-9

Eliphaz now gets specific about Job's sin. What offense does verse 6 reveal?

^{NLT} **Job 22:6** For example, you must have lent money to your friend and then kept the clothing he gave you as a pledge. Yes, you stripped him to the bone.

Exodus 22:26 If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down.

How has Job handled the poor and needy?

Isaiah 1:16-17 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Job 22:10-11

How has God punished Job for his sin?

Job 22:12-14

How does Eliphaz understand Job's theology?

Job 22:15-20

How do the wicked conduct themselves?

Job 21:14-15 They say to God, 'Depart from us! We do not desire the knowledge of your ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? And what profit do we get if we pray to him?'

Job 22:21-26

What does Eliphaz want from Job? How does Eliphaz evaluate his own opinion?

Psalms 119:11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Job 22:27-30

What happens to the proud?

What does Eliphaz not know?