



The Gospel According to Job

January 18: Eliphaz Answers: Job 4

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Who are Job's first three friends? Who is the fourth?

How long did Eliphaz remain quiet? What changed?

In how many of the cycles does Eliphaz participate?

Are the speeches of Eliphaz divinely inspired?

Job 4:1-6

What compels Eliphaz to respond?

What does Eliphaz suggest that Job has done in the past?

Isaiah 50:4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

In his estimation, how is Job responding to his situation?

What should be Job's hope?

Job 4:7-11

What wisdom does Eliphaz impart? Do you agree?

Ecclesiastes 7:15 In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his evildoing.

What illustrations does Eliphaz offer?

Job 4:12-16

What mystical experience does Eliphaz describe? What glides past his face?

To whom does Eliphaz credit his wisdom that follows?

Jeremiah 23:28 Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD.

Job 33:15-17 In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on men, while they slumber on their beds, then he opens the ears of men and terrifies them with warnings, that he may turn man aside from his deed and conceal pride from a man;

Job 4:17-21

What dilemma does Eliphaz set before Job? Is he right?

^{ESV} **Job 4:17** 'Can mortal man be in the right before God? Can a man be pure before his Maker?

^{NIV} **Job 4:17** 'Can a mortal be more righteous than God? Can a man be more pure than his Maker?

Which translation is better?

Psalm 139:12 Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

Psalm 143:1-2 Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness! Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.

What is the *greater to lesser* argument Eliphaz uses? What should Job recognize?

To what does Eliphaz compare Job's life? What does this mean for Job's situation?

What is the general direction of Eliphaz's counsel so far?

January 25: Voters' Assembly

February 1: Eliphaz Continues: Job 5