INTRODUCTION

- Remember, Job has lost his 10 kids, his worlf, his wealth, and his health – with no visible hope of recovering anything
- The “Deuteronomic” formula or the Retributive Justice principle states that God blesses the righteous and curses the wicked
- So, Job’s world is turned upside down – He’s bewildered, he’s crushed, he’s inept, and he has no hope or comfort

Passage | Comments
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Job 3 | Job Speaks – And Curses the Day He Was Born
- v3. “Let the day perish on which I was born”
- v11. “Why did I not die at birth?…”
- Yet, Job realizes death never comes easy for some
- v8. Some have a death wish since they seem willing to do stupid things such as “rouse Leviathan”
- v21. Others long for death but it eludes them…Rev 9:6
- Why would someone prefer death to life?
- v20. Job questions why a sliver of hope is even given to those who are destined to suffer in this life
- v24. Job is so miserable, even food sickens him

Job 4-5 | Eliphaz Speaks – Trash Talks Begins
- 4:3-4. Eliphaz begins praising Job for his good deeds
- vv7-8. But soon hits him with “only bad people suffer”
- Not everything Eliphaz speaks is false
- 5.7. “Man is born for trouble as sparks fly upward”
- 5:8-9. “Place your faith in God who does great and unsearchable things, wonders without number”
- 5:11. “Those who mourn are lifted to safety”
- 5:17. “Do not despise the discipline of God”
- 5:18. “He inflict's pain and gives relief”

Job 6-7 | Job Speaks – And Defends Himself
- 6:10. “I rejoice in unspeakable pain that I have not denied the words of the Holy One”
- And Job reasons with his friends to show him mercy
- 6:14. “For the despairing man there should be kindness from his friends so he doesn’t lose heart”
- 6:24-25. Job was willing to hear them out and he acknowledged that honest words may hurt, but their arguments were way off the mark and useless
- And Job cries out to God - “WHAT HAVE I DONE?”
- 7:17. Job acknowledges that God is interested in us
- 7:18. God even examines us “every morning” and tries us in “every moment” to see if we are for Him
- 7:20. “Have I sinned for You to use me as a target?”

How Long Is A Moment?

God Tries Us in Every Moment
- A moment may be seconds, minutes, hours, or days
- It could be in a thought, a word, a deed, or an attitude
- Scientists say we think 10,000 thoughts every day - that’s how often we are tested every day by God

CONCLUSION/APPLICATION

- We can learn quickly from Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar the hurtful words and attitudes we should NOT voice around a grieving friend

NEXT WEEK: Job 15-21. The 2nd round of dialogues begin between the 4 men – with ever increasing belittlement from Job’s 3 friends. Yet Job defends his righteousness and calls on God to hear him out.

“Yououghta just curse God and die. Oh, by the way, your few remaining friends are here to cheer you up”