

SCRUTINY AND CERTAINTY

Job 22-24

**Though diagnosed with defiant sin, Job defends himself
as a sufferer and not a sinner.**

I. ELIPHAZ'S SCRUTINY - Chapter 22

- Indicating Job's diagnosis and treatment

A. PROBLEMS (22:1-20)

1. Great Frustration (1)
 - This is Eliphaz's third response to Job - See chapters 4&5, 15
2. Great Wickedness (2-11)
 - a. Rhetorical questions (2-5)
 - b. Unsupported conclusions (6-9)
 - c. Frightening consequences (10-11)
3. Great Arrogance (12-14)
 - a. An observation about God (12)
 - b. An accusation about Job (13-14)
4. Great Error (15-20)
 - a. Traveling the path of the wicked (15-16)
 - b. Talking like the defiant (17)
 - c. Turning away from the righteous (18-20)

B. PRESCRIPTIONS (21-30)

1. Requirements (21-25)
 - a. Submit to God (21)
 - b. Learn from God (22)
 - c. Return to God (23-25)
2. Results (26-30)
 - a. Communion with God (26-28)
 - b. Intervention for others (29-30)

II. JOB'S CERTAINTY - Chapters 23-24

- I'm suffering but not sinning

A. ONE DAY: JOB'S REASSURANCE (23:1-12)

1. A Certain Confidence (1-7)
 - *I could be acquitted*
 - a. Job's passion (1-3) > Hurting but hunting for God
 - b. Job's presentation (4-6) > I'll have an effective interaction with God
 - c. Job's prospects (7) > Righteous reasoning will result in release from judgement!
Over please >

2. A Certain Condition (8-12)
 - *I will become more valuable*
 - a. Presently (8-9)
 - b. Ultimately (10)
 - c. Historically (11-12)

B. TODAY: JOB'S RESPONSIBILITIES (23:13-24:25)

1. A Certain Obligation (23:13-16)
 - *I can be worshipful*
 - a. Recognizing God's sovereignty (13-14)
 - b. Recognizing God's superiority (15-16)
2. A Certain Determination (23:17)
 - *I can speak up*
3. A Certain Sympathy (24:1-17)
 - *I can selflessly relate to the sufferings of others*
 - a. A perplexity about God (1, 12)
 - b. A people victimized by the godless (2-11)
 - c. The perpetrators unpunished by God (13-17)
4. A Certain Condemnation (24:18-25)
 - *I can renounce the wicked*

CONCLUSION:

*Though diagnosed with defiant sin, Job defends himself as a sufferer and not a sinner.
- Though suffering Job is not sinning and is, in fact, serving!*

I've suggested that a subtitle for Job might be "Trust Amid Chaos" but we find in this passage another great quality which is "Tasks Amid Chaos."

**Let us not be diagnosed as sinners nor dejected as sufferers.
Rather let us serve even when we're suffering.**