

A SECOND OPINION

Job 11-14

**Job's faulty friends frustrate and embolden him to look to God for a second opinion.
We too should seek to know what God thinks about our suffering situations.**

I. JOB'S RESPONSE TO HIS FRIENDS (13:1-17 with chapters 11-12)

A. THE PROBLEMS (13:1-5)

1. They were useless friend/theologians (13:1-2)
 - Demonstrated in chapter 12
 - a. They were underwhelming with their instruction (13:1-2)
 - b. They were unsympathetic in their demeanor (12:1-5)
 - c. They were incorrect about retribution (6) > See also 12:16
 - d. They were unimpressive in their knowledge (7-12)
 - e. They were uninspired by God (13-25) > Unable to write or sing a hymn like Job's
2. They were worthless physicians (13:4-5)
 - Demonstrated in chapter 11
 - a. Their treatment is fraudulent (13:4-5)
 - b. Their bedside manner is egregious (12:1-6)
 - c. Their diagnosis is flawed (7-12)
 - Zophar concludes that Job is a sinful idiot trying to hide things from God (11-12)
 - d. Their remedy is wrong (13-19)
 - If you repent you will have peace (14-16)
 - e. Their prediction is wrong (20)
 - The wicked do not always fail > See 12:6 and 16

B. A WARNING (13:6-12)

1. Be careful (6) > Please pay attention to what I'm going to say
2. Some questions (7-9)
 - a. Will you take on God's roles? (7-8)
 - b. Will you do well under God's review? (9)
3. Some conclusions (10-12)
 - God will reprove and scare those who offer insignificant advice

C. JOB'S PLAN (13:3, 13-17)

1. His Appeal Announced (3)
2. His Appeal Analyzed (13-17)
 - a. This is risky (13-14)
 - b. This requires faith (15a)
 - c. This involves commitment (15b)
 - d. This involves assurance (16)
 - e. This involves instruction (17)

II. JOB'S APPEAL TO GOD (13:18-14:22)

A. HIS CONFIDENCE (13:18-19)

- I'm ready to share my case and reassured of the outcome!

B. THE CONDITIONS (13:20-21)

- Do not abandon or scare me

C. THEIR CONVERSATION (13:22)

- Note that Job's suffering has now become the catalyst for communion with God and not simply a complaint to or about Him

D. SOME QUESTIONS (13:23-27)

- Since God chose not to start the conversation, Job did
 1. How many are my sins? (23)
 2. Why do You hide from me? (24)
 3. Do you plan to continue pursuing me? (25-28)

E. DEATH CONSIDERATIONS (14:1-6)

- Life is brief, God will judge and humans need God's mercy

F. POTENTIAL CONCLUSIONS (14:7-22)

1. The Future is Barren (7-12)
 - Those with an absence of faith
2. The Future is Bleak (18-22)
 - Those indicating the antithesis of faith
3. The Future is Bright (13-17)
 - God protects, changes, calls and forgives

CONCLUSION:

Opinions are like fingernails ... everybody's got some.

1. What do others think of you?
 - You are an idiot! (11:12)
2. What do you think of yourself?
 - I am a sinner who suffers (13:23-28)
3. What do you think of God?
 - Will you trust Him amid your trials and tell Him your struggles? (13:15)
4. What does God think of you?
 - Are you His forgiven child waiting to be called home? (14:13-17)

All that really matters is God's opinion.

- Are you in fellowship with Him?