

Introduction:

Euthanasia is illegal in most of the United States. Physician aid in dying or assisted suicide, is legal in five states: California, Colorado, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington and in Washington DC. The key difference between euthanasia and assisted suicide is who administers the lethal dose of medication. A recent Gallup Poll found that 84% of males supported euthanasia compared to 64% of females. Some reports cite prior studies showing that women have a higher level of moral conservatism and faith as an explanation. Within both sexes, there are differences in attitudes towards euthanasia due to other influences. However, we learn from the book of Job that God himself does not approve even as Job argued for the deferment of his life. Job's words to God in chapter ten are similar to his speeches in chapters six and seven. Therefore we will proceed in a comprehensive fashion to complete this chapter and highlight some different thoughts.

I. Job expostulates (*ex -pots -u -late*) with God. Vv. 1-3

1. Job expostulates with God that is to protest. In chapter 10 Job speaks to God and not his friends. He tells God he is weary and he loathes this life. This is not hard to understand, when you are sick daily and in pain you do not have quality of life. Many would abhor this as Job. Job declares he has a right to complain because his bitterness of soul demands it.

2. He pleads with God, do not condemn me; Show me why you contend with me (v. 2). Job complains that God is condemning him without even telling him the charges. The meaning of *[do not condemn me]* is literally ‘treat a person as wicked.’ That was Job’s problem with God. It appeared to him that the Almighty was giving him what a wicked man deserved when he knew Job was not a wicked man. Job would say to God, Make your case against me to show why I deserve this disaster in my life.” Don’t let bitterness of the flesh poison your soul.

In some sense this is arrogant because we are all sinners and deserve the worst. God always has our best interest at heart. It may be that God is showing you His power to uphold you and to develop your graces and gifts. He is refining you for the Masters’ use. Yes, God could be cultivating you to humble you. Though this was not the case with Job, it is true that God at time allows trials with both saints and sinners to deal with their sin. “Trials often discover sins, -sins we should never have found out if it had not been for them.

3. Job vented more and more to God. “Does this make you happy he states in verse three. I am the creation of your hands and look at how you are treating me!” We will come to that in our third point. (see verse 8) Next...

II. Job contrasts God & Man vv. 4, 5

1. We come back to Job describing the attribute about God that he is an all knowing spirit. *Do you have eyes of flesh? Or do you see as man sees?* Job clearly knew that God was not limited in His vision as humans. However, the facts that Job had seen and experienced, it seemed like God saw him with the same shallow and superficial vision that his friends Eliphaz and Bildad.

Man in his low estate cannot be likened unto God, nor can he in his greatest excellence be compared to God.

2. Job appealed to God's knowledge of himself and his character that he is not a wicked man. *Thou knowest that I am not wicked* - These statements are made in verses 6 and 7. Of course, God agreed with Job's self-estimation, even saying that Job *was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.*

Job's distress distorted his perception of God, to the point where he could not see what could only be seen by the eye of faith that goes beyond the sight of present circumstances. Let this be a lesson to all of us who may have times of ailment, afflictions, disease, sickness and pain.

C. S. Lewis published his first popular book on Christian doctrine in 1940 entitled "The Problem of Pain. This book examined the question of why we suffer. It was written as a defense against the atheistic charge that the reality of suffering proves that God doesn't exist. But suffering is much more than an intellectual problem it is an experience that immerses the body, mind, and soul of the person who suffers. As we have moved through the story of Job's suffering, we have observed his personal struggle with the undeserved pain he is experiencing. Job next expresses...

III. God his Creator vv. 8-12

1. Job understands that mankind came from *the dust of the ground* (Genesis 2:7). He acknowledges that life begins with God and that He guided his *conception and formed me in the womb in his mother's womb clothing him with skin, flesh and blood*

In this Hebrew poetry, Job illustrated the creating of his body by three pictures:

- Man is like a vessel of **clay**, shaped by a potter (Job 10:9).
- Man is like milk, poured out but when curdled and thicken it can be made cheese vv. 10.
- Man is like a garment, woven by a weaver (Job 10:11).

2. God provided Job with the means of life (**Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit**) *and thy visitation* – referring to God's continual providential care. He also preserved Job in life - has given him the air he breathe, it is by God's continued visitation or

influence that the life of any man is preserved; in him we live, move, and have our being.

Application:

God loves you and He loved you long before you were ever born.

Psalms 139:15, 16 / Jeremiah 1:5 / John 3:16

God loves you! He has done more for you than anyone else. (John 15:13) "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." --- gospel

IV. Final Thoughts vv. 13-21

1. In verses 13-17 Job feels like a marked man that God has a bull eye on his back. He is like a hunted animal. Job doesn't understand why God would bring him out of his mother's womb to live such a purposeless life. (Job 10:18) Poor Job, he thought God was angry with him; so angry that he believed God had taken all his possessions and allowed his children to be killed. But God was not angry with him at all. However, in his current state of mind Job wished he had died at birth.

Since his life he believed had no purpose, Job begged God, Cease! Leave me alone, that I may take a little comfort, Before I go to the place from which I shall not return, To the land of darkness and the shadow of death (10:20-21). Job could not understand why God had let all these terrible things happen to him. And that's the critical point: if Job had known that God was using him as a weapon to discredit Satan, he would have just sat back and waited for it all to be over.

However, since Job did not know "why," he basically asked the question, "Why this waste of my life?"

At one time or another all of us have asked God that question, it may be when an infant dies or a young person is killed in an automobile accident... When Jim Elliot and four other missionaries were killed in Ecuador by the Auca Indians they were trying to win them to Christ, many asked, "Why this waste?" Jim Elliot said it best, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose."

Conclusion:

At the time of tragedy it all seems so unfair and such a waste. But no matter how bad it seems, remember these words concerning Job found in James 5:11. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.