

Job Takes His Case to God (Job 13-14)

I. Job Prepares His Case (13:1-19)

A. Job Decides to Complain to God (13:1-6)

1. Job understands all his friends have said (1-2)
 - a. He knows what they know
 - b. He is not inferior to them
 - c. what they have said is common knowledge
 - d. Although incorrect, it is the prevailing view of God
2. Job desires to bring his case before God (3)
 - a. Job is through trying to convince his friends
 - b. Job will now speak directly to the Almighty
3. Job Rebukes his friends to be Silent (4-5)
 - a. He charges them with lying
 - b. He realizes they are worthless physicians
 - c. He tells them silence is their wisdom
4. Job Prepares to make his case to God (6)
 - a. He cries to God to hear his argument
 - b. He cries to God to listen to his plea

B. Job Will Listen to Men's Words no Longer (13:7-12)

1. Job will not listen to false words about God (7-8)
 - a. they have spoken deceitfully for God
 - b. They have shown partiality toward him
 - i. They blame Job because God is not unjust
 - ii. Yet Job is blameless
 - iii. Only the reader knows the full story here.
2. Job warns them of God's Judgment (9-12)
 - a. They cannot deceive God when he searches them out
 - i. they have spoken falsely about God
 - ii. they will face judgment for their words
 - b. They will be rebuked and terrified (10-11)
 - c. Their maxims are worthless (12)

C. Job Will Trust in God's Judgment of Him (13:13-19)

1. At Great Risk Job will bring his case to God (13-15)
 - a. Job decides to speak to God even though it is dangerous (13)
 - b. He understands that he is taking his life in his hand
 - c. He could rightly be killed by God for arguing with Him
 - i. Job takes the risk
 - ii. Job knows that God is his only hope
 - iii. Even if God slays him, he understands that God is his only hope
 - d. He decides to argue his ways to God's face
2. Job Believes He can Come Before God (16)
 - a. He is confident he will be saved through his dispute
 - b. He is confident he is not a godless person who cannot come before God

3. Job is Confident that He will be Vindicated (17-19)
 - a. He has prepared his case to God carefully
 - b. He believes he shall be in the right
 - c. He understands that he risks everything
 - i. If he is found wrong (contended with) then he will "be silent and die"
 - ii. He is ready to risk his life

II. Job Makes His Complaint to God (13:20-27)

A. Job Asks God for an Audience (20-22)

1. Job asks God for two things (20)
2. Job asks God to remove his sufferings (21)
3. Job asks God to speak with him about his situation (22)

B. Job Questions the Punishment of his sin (23-26)

1. Job Acknowledges His Sin (23)
 - a. He is under no delusion that he is perfect
 - b. He understands that his sin is the root cause
2. Job questions God's Apparent detestation of him (24)
 - a. Job shared a relationship with God at one time
 - b. Job questions why God hides his face now
 - c. Job questions why God now considers him an enemy
3. Job questions God's Faithfulness (25-26)
 - a. Job claims God is piling punishment on things already punished (25)
 - b. Job claims God is punishing him for things in his youth which were already atoned for with sacrifice

C. Job Charges God with Cruel Punishment (27)

1. Job has been imprisoned by God
 - a. His "feet are in the stocks"
 - b. His paths are being watched as if He is under the arresting eye of God his jailer

D. Job Does Not Comprehend God's Ways (13:28-14:6)

1. Man is too Frail for God's Relentless Discipline (13:28-14:5)
 - a. Man is just wasting away like a rotting thing (13:28)
 - b. Man's life is feeble and short (14:1-2)
 - i. Even without God's wrath, man is fading away
 - ii. Even without God's wrath, man's life is full of trouble
 - c. Man can have no hope standing before God (14:3-5)
 - i. Job wonders why God would be so concerned with man (3)
 - ii. Job knows that nothing clean can come out of something unclean (4)
 - iii. Job knows that man cannot stand in opposition to God because God has appointed his days (5)
Job wonders why God is taking such a hard hand with him because man's days are fleeting anyway. Job seems to

be a little sorry for himself here. "Why won't you let me alone, I'll be dead soon anyway."

2. Job Pleads for God to Leave Him Alone (6)
 - a. Job desires God to leave him be
 - b. Job just wants to enjoy the time he has left, even as a hired hand
- E. Job Finds No Hope in His Situation (7-12)
 1. Even a felled tree has hope (7-9)
 - a. At least it will sprout again (7)
 - b. Though it may "die" water will bring it to life again (8-9)
 2. A fallen man has no hope of restoration (10-12)
 - a. A man cannot rise again after he dies
 - b. He will remain in death until the universe dies
- F. Job Pleads for an End to His Suffering (13-17)
 1. Job asks for Death (13)
 - a. He wants to be hidden in Sheol (the place of the dead)
 - b. He wants to be concealed until God's wrath passes
 - c. He wants God to set a time when he will relent
 2. Job Longs for a Glimmer of hope (14)
 - a. He would gladly wait out the days of his service if he knew there would be a day of ease
 - b. He desires to know the day when he will be free from wrath
 3. Job Longs for the Covering of His Sin (15-17)
 - a. Job wishes God would "love" and watch over him again (15-16)
 - i. Of course God does love and watch over Job but he does not feel like it
 - ii. Job is longing for God's wrath to be averted
 - b. Job wishes God would forgive his iniquity (17)
 - i. Job understands his sin
 - ii. Job desires his sin to be sealed and covered
- G. Job is Not Hopeful that God will Grant His Request (18-22)
 1. Job Sees the Earth's Deterioration (18-19)
 - a. The mountains crumble – they don't last
 - b. The waters erode the strong rocks
 - c. The rivers eat into the soil of the earth
 2. Job Sees Man's hope destroyed by God's discipline (20)
 - a. In the same way the waters erode the earth
 - b. "you destroy the hope of man"
 - c. Job intimates that God wars against man forever and then man dies – there is no hope
 3. Job despairs that man doesn't even have the hope of his sons (21)
 4. Job lives only in pain – He has no hope God will relent