



Eternal PERSPECTIVE *Job*

BIBLE TEXT | JOB 11:1-20

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said: **2** "Should a multitude of words go unanswered, and a man full of talk be judged right? **3** Should your babble silence men, and when you mock, shall no one shame you? **4** For you say, "My doctrine is pure, and I am clean in God's eyes." **5** But oh, that God would speak and open his lips to you, **6** and that he would tell you the secrets of wisdom. For he is manifold in understanding. Know then that God exacts of you less than your guilt deserves. **7** "Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? **8** It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? **9** Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea. **10** If he passes through and imprisons and summons the court, who can turn him back? **11** For he knows worthless men; when he sees iniquity, will he not consider it? **12** But a stupid man will get understanding when a wild donkey's colt is born a man. **13** "If you prepare your heart, you will stretch out your hands toward him. **14** If iniquity is in your hand, put it far away, and let not injustice dwell in your tents. **15** Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish; you will be secure and will not fear. **16** You will forget your misery; you will remember it as waters that have passed away. **17** And your life will be brighter than the noonday; its darkness will be like the morning. **18** And you will feel secure, because there is hope; you will look around and take your rest in security. **19** You will lie down, and none will make you afraid; many will court your favor. **20** But the eyes of the wicked will fail; all way of escape will be lost to them, and their hope is to breathe their last."



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DEVOTIONAL FOR JOB 11:1-20

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Sad and embarrassed to say, but when I was in ninth grade, I assaulted my science teacher. He was completely innocent; his only crime was attempting to break up a fight between myself and another student during his class. The details some forty plus years later really don't matter, the consequence does. I can imagine that this teacher "wanted the book thrown at me". I am certain he wanted me removed from campus, and criminal charges filed against me. Basically, he wanted me to be locked up and the cell key thrown away. As far as he was concerned, if he never saw me again, he would be delighted.

Fortunately for me, there were others who advocated on my behalf and the consequences of my choices were not nearly as severe as they certainly could have been. Unknowingly, I had received unmerited grace.

By the overwhelming grace of God, our iniquities are forgiven. Not only forgiven, but forgotten. The eternal damnation of our choices would suffice if it weren't for our Savior and Lord Jesus, who advocates on our behalf to His Heavenly Father (1 John 2:1).

I often pause in awe and wonder of the everlasting mercy the Father has for me, and can only speculate the darkness in my life, if I would even still exist – had not the blessing of His mercy and grace rescued me from eternal wrath.

You, just like me, deserve everlasting separation from God for our sins. The details of sin, big or small, really don't matter, the consequence does. It's only because of the blameless sacrificial blood of Jesus that allows us to be transferred from the dominion of darkness into His marvelous light (Colossians 1:13). Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD (Psalm 150:6)!

Questions:

1. What consequences do you deserve for your unrighteousness?
2. Do you recognize our LORD in awe and amazement at what He has done for you?
3. Take time right now, to reflect upon the lack of consequence you receive because Jesus spilled His precious blood for you.