



Eternal PERSPECTIVE *Job*

BIBLE TEXT | JOB 25:1-6

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said:

2 "Dominion and fear are with God; he makes peace in his high heaven. **3** Is there any number to his armies? Upon whom does his light not arise? **4** How then can man be in the right before God? How can he who is born of woman be pure? **5** Behold, even the moon is not bright, and the stars are not pure in his eyes; **6** how much less man, who is a maggot, and the son of man, who is a worm!"

DEVOTIONAL FOR JOB 25:1-6

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When I was in my early twenties, I was just out of college and making very little money. I lived in a small apartment in Dallas with four of my close friends. Frequently, we would visit El Fenix and enjoy a tortilla and queso dinner for around \$2! For me, money was so tight (I'm embarrassed to say it) that I cut my own hair. It was terrible. I grabbed scissors, stood in front of a full length mirror, and went to town. As you can imagine, I got lots of comments on my barber skills, with 100% of them being negative. After a day or so, I definitely started to respond to myself, "Tell me something I don't know!"

I wonder if Job felt the same way when his friend Bildad imparted his final speech in Chapter 25. Bildad takes another opportunity to not only repeat some of the same thoughts that Zophar and Eliphaz told Job earlier but also to play the role of "Captain Obvious" and tell Job that God is great and man is not.

Leading up to Chapter 25, Job has lost everything. Job knows that he is weak and powerless. Job has faced humility by being judged as a sinner by his friends and community. Bildad, however, chooses to tell Job what he already knows. Bildad's speech in Chapter 25 is entirely true; God is all-powerful. Verses 2-3 state, "Dominion and awe belong to God", and "Can His forces be numbered?" In verse 4, Bildad actually repeats what Job said in Chapter 9:2, "How



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then can a mortal be righteous before God?" In verse 6, Bildad describes man's position under the stars and moon, "How much less a mortal, who is but a maggot—a human being, who is only a worm!"

If it were me, it would hurt to lose everything, and then have a friend tell me I'm a maggot and a worm, when I am quite aware already of my low position. Am I right?! What can we learn from Bildad's final speech? We know Chapter 25 is the shortest chapter in the book of Job. Scholars speculate that Job's previous rebuttals are finally hitting home with his friends, resulting in less communication about Job's situation. Job may finally be getting his point across to his friends. When reflecting on this chapter, let's consider Bildad and Job and ask ourselves the following questions.

Questions:

1. When addressing a friend who is hurting, do my words build up or tear down? (Ephesians 4:29)
2. When I am being advised by a friend, do I listen or become prideful/defensive? (Galatians 6:3)
3. What are tangible ways I can be a loving friend to someone who is hurting?