

# Job 20-21

## Three Distinctions Of The Unrighteous Who Prosper



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# Context

- Chapter 20: Zophar, 2<sup>nd</sup> speech; continues to accuse Job of hidden sin
- Says, wicked are always punished in this life and righteous always blessed in this life
- Chapter 21: Job responds; elaborates on why Zophar's view is wrong
- (vv.1-6) Job asks friends to really listen to him; says they will probably mock him after, but at least let me have my say
- Job explains several distinctions of wicked who prosper

# Incomplete Appearance Of Their Situation

- (vv.7-16) Job shares out of life experience
- He has seen many wicked who lived long and prosperous lives; seen the evil increase in power
- Job: seems those who reject good and live out evil never suffer or have problems; those who unrighteous never experience consequences; this incomplete view
- God is in control of all things; even the prosperity of the wicked and suffering of righteous

- Ps. 37:1-2, “Do not fret because of evildoers, nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.”



# God's Appraisal Of Their Condition

- (vv.17-26) Job shifts focus to God's perspective (the One that truly matters)
- Job points to fact, God is Sovereign; He sees and knows all and aware of who doing what to whom
- Job; might not be in this lifetime or may be, but those who do evil and reject Jesus one day have to give account for their actions
- In this life; sometimes evil receive good and righteous receive bad, but God will make everything right in His fullness at the perfect time

- Ps. 9:17, “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.”
- Hebs. 11:39-40, “And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.”



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# Future Judgment Of Their Position

- (vv.27-34) Job shares; Lord is loving, patient, and merciful; doesn't want anyone to experience judgment
- But, won't violate free will; everyone has a decision for or against Jesus; those who reject will experience the penalty of their sin
- Job tells friends; those who reject Jesus will have a day of giving account; those who receive His free gift of eternal life will receive heaven and life forever
- There is a time coming where all will face Jesus

- Prov. 16:4, “The Lord has made all for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.”
- 2 Peter 3:9, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”





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