

Job's Three Friends

Job 2:13 – 28:28

by Don Falkos

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Job's three friends saw how dreadfully he was suffering. They sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. No one said a word.

Finally, Job broke the silence, "If only I had died at birth, now I would be at peace."

Job's friends said, "Stop whining. God doesn't punish the innocent. People bring trouble on themselves. And from what I'm seeing, you must have done something really awful. Turn back to the Almighty who is not only the punisher but the healer."

"God does not pervert justice. Your children are dead because of what they did. And if you were truly innocent, God would bless you."

"Understanding of God is beyond the reach of mere mortals. But exercise wisdom; devote yourself to the Almighty and you will find hope."

Job replied, "Your comments are not helpful. I have done nothing wrong, yet God destroys the guilty and the innocent alike. I am innocent. If I could, I would ask, 'What have I done? Why are you doing this to me?'"

"Life is short and troubled. My spirit is broken. I cry out for help, but no one answers. And yet, I know that my Redeemer lives and will stand on this earth. Oh, how I long for that day when I will see God with my own eyes. All the wonders of creation provide only a tiny glimpse of who God is.

"You talk of wisdom and understanding. The fear of the Lord – that is wisdom. Avoiding evil – that is understanding."