

RUSSELL SANDERS

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JOB LESSON 8

JOB RESPONDS TO ELIPHAZ

Job chapters 6 and 7 give Job's response following the first discourse of Eliphaz. Job continues to grieve in his misery. In Job 6:8-10 Job wishes that God would just end his life so that he could at least have the consoling thought (6:0 NIV) ***"that I had not denied the words of the Holy One."*** In death or life, he would remain true to God. In verse 30 he reaffirms his innocence.

He seems to change his tune as he further reflects on his misery. Job 7:5 speaks of his loathsome broken skin covered with worms (maggots?). Verses 8-10 Job accuses God of abandoning him and in verse 11 Job says, ***"Therefore I will not refrain my mouth... I will complain."***

By complaining against God, Job now admits in verse 20, ***"I have sinned."*** I have seen a number of people in my time who accused God and blamed him for the untimely death of a loved one. They hardened their hearts against God and have refused to "forgive" Him. They see Him as unloving, unjust, and cruel. Job was now accusing God of being unjust, yet not denying him. Rather he acknowledged His sovereignty. He knows that God is not accountable to man. Verse 17 says, ***"What is man, that thou shouldest...?"***

In Job's time period they had little, or no concept of a being called Satan or Lucifer. They believed God made all the decisions or orchestrated all things. It was later in time that scripture revealed the personage of Satan. We now know that Satan is the one that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. Don't be deceived.