

Job 16:2

I have heard many such things; Miserable comforters are you all!

We read the book of Job in hopes of learning how to trust in the Lord when trials come our way, which they do for everyone. Even James says,

† **James 1:2 & 13** *“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials. Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.”*

With the emphasis being on “*when*” not “*if*”, because we all go through trials and temptations.

But today’s devotional is not about being tempted or even the trials we go through. I believe another thing the book of Job teaches us is: “**How not to be like Job’s friends**”.

Read what Job said about his three friends again, “*Miserable comforters are you all!*” Notice it ended with an exclamation point “*!*” meaning, it’s not just a passing thing Job said, but he was frustrated and even disappointed in his three friends that should have been there for him during this trial that no one would ever want to go through, with the loss of his business, his workers, his possession and worst all, all of his children, and it all happened in one day.

I mean, if one of your children died, would you want to hear from your best friend(s) that he or she died because of your sin, or because your child was in sin? Where is the comfort in that? The thing is, it doesn’t matter if it’s true or not, because maybe someone did lose their job because he or she was an idiot and messed up, don’t you think they know that already? We quote this next verse, yet how many times do we really believe or live it?

† **Matthew 7:3-5** *And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.*

If you read that, and then read the end of Job where God says to Job.

† **Job 42:7-8** *And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, 'My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has. Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I*

will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

I read what Jesus said and think that Job's three friends were the ones who were trying to take the speck out of Job's eye, yet they all three had these huge telephone pole sized logs in their own eyes.

We are so quick to judge when someone else has a trial, and we think that they must be in sin, and we treat them like they do, but what if the tables were turned, and this was you, how would you want others to treat you?

Now ***"Go and do likewise."***

† **Luke 10:36-37** ***"So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"*** And he said, ***"He who showed mercy on him."*** Then Jesus said to him, ***"Go and do likewise."***