Iliop and Ilamb Apologetics

Job: The Problem of Pain

JOHN E. HARTLEY

I. PROLOGUE (1:1-2:13)

- A. JOB'S FAITH AND PROSPERITY (1:1–5)
- B. THE FIRST SCENE BEFORE YAHWEH (1:6-12)
- C. JOB'S TRAGIC MISFORTUNE (1:13-22)
- D. THE SECOND SCENE BEFORE YAHWEH (2:1–6)
- E. THE AFFLICTION OF JOB'S BODY (2:7-10)
- F. THE ARRIVAL OF THE THREE COMFORTERS (2:11–13)

II. JOB'S CURSE-LAMENT (3:1-26)

- A. JOB'S CURSE OF THE DAY OF HIS BIRTH (3:1–13)
- B. A LAMENT (3:14–26)

III. THE DIALOGUE (4:1–27:23)

- A. THE FIRST CYCLE (4:1–14:22)
 - 1. Eliphaz's First Speech (4:1–5:27)
 - a. A Word of Consolation (4:1-6)
 - b. The Doctrine of Retribution (4:7–11)
 - c. A Vision Report (4:12-21)
 - d. No Mediator for Mankind (5:1-7)
 - e. An Appeal to Seek God (5:8-16)
 - f. God's Ability to Deliver (5:17–27)
 - 2. Job's First Response (6:1–7:21)
 - a. A Rejoinder to the Friends (6:1–30)
 - (1) A Defense of His Lament (6:1–13)
 - (a) The Reality of His Suffering (6:1–7)
 - (b) A Wish for Death as a Release from Suffering (6:8–13)
 - (2) An Accusation against the Friends (6:14–30)
 - (a) Their Treachery (6:14–23)
 - (b) A Request for Their Sympathy (6:24–30)
 - b. A Lament (7:1–21)
 - (1) The Lament Proper (7:1–10)
 - (a) A Description of Great Pain (7:1–6)
 - (b) A Petition (7:7–10)
 - (2) A Complaint against God (7:11–21)

Liop and Lamb Apologetics

- (a) The Basic Complaint (7:11–16)
- (b) A Plea for a Reprieve (7:17–21)
- 3. Bildad's First Speech (8:1-22)
 - a. God's Just Ways (8:1–7)
 - b. Evidence of God's Justice (8:8–19)
 - (1) The Teaching of Tradition (8:8–10)
 - (2) Illustrations from Nature (8:11-19)
 - c. Conclusion and Application (8:20–22)
- 4. Job's Second Response (9:1–10:22)
 - a. Job's Quest (9:1–35)
 - (1) Job's Concerns about Disputing His Case with God (9:1–24)
 - (a) Job's Opening Concerns (9:1–4)
 - (b) Creation, the Canopy for God's Appearing (9:5–13)
 - (c) Job's Misgivings about Arguing His Case before God (9:14–24)
 - (2) Job's Inability to Demonstrate His Innocence (9:25-35)
 - b. Job's Lament (10:1–22)
 - (1) A Complaint against God (10:1–7)
 - (2) Job's Reflection on His Origin (10:8–12)
 - (3) God's Vigilance (10:13–17)
 - (4) Job's Preoccupation with Death (10:18–22)
- 5. Zophar's First Speech (11:1–20)
 - a. An Accusation against Job (11:1–4)
 - b. God's Wisdom (11:5-12)
 - c. A Call to Repentance (11:13–20)
- 6. Job's Third Response (12:1–14:22)
 - a. Complaints against the Friends (12:1-13:17)
 - (1) The First Complaint (12:1–11)
 - (a) Job's Self-defense (12:1–3)
 - (b) Job's Disgrace (12:4-6)
 - (c) Instruction in Wisdom (12:7–11)
 - (2) Interlude: God's Sovereign Rule (12:12–25)
 - (3) The Second Complaint (13:1–17)
 - (a) The Complaint Proper (13:1–12)
 - (b) Job's Resolve (13:13–17)
 - b. A Summons to God (13:18–14:22)
 - (1) Job's Desire for a Legal Resolution to His Complaint (13:18–28)
 - (a) Job's Statement of Readiness and His Request for Two Pre-Trial Conditions (13:18–22)
 - (b) An Examination of the Plaintiff (13:23–28)
 - (2) Human Suffering and Job's Plight (14:1–22)

Liop and Lamb Apologetics

- (a) Human Suffering (14:1–6)
- (b) Reflections on the Possibility of Resurrection (14:7–12)

- (c) Job's Desire for Relief (14:13–17)
- (d) The Terrors of Death (14:18–22)
- B. THE SECOND CYCLE (15:1-21:34)
 - 1. Eliphaz's Second Speech (15:1–35)
 - a. A Disputation Rejecting Job's Claim to Wisdom (15:1-16)
 - b. An Instruction about the Woes of the Wicked (15:17–35)
 - 2. Job's Fourth Response (16:1–17:16)
 - a. A Dispute with the Comforters (16:1–6)
 - b. A Personal Lament with a Complaint against God (16:7–17)
 - c. The Heavenly Witness (16:18-22)
 - d. A Personal Lament (17:1-16)
 - 3. Bildad's Second Speech (18:1-21)
 - a. A Complaint against Job (18:1–4)
 - b. The Terrible Fate of the Wicked (18:5–21)
 - (1) The Trapping of the Wicked Person (18:5–10)
 - (2) The Death of the Wicked Person (18:11–21)
 - 4. Job's Fifth Response (19:1–29)
 - a. A Complaint against the Friends (19:1-6)
 - b. A Complaint about God's Enmity (19:7-12)
 - c. A Complaint about Complete Alienation (19:13-20)
 - d. A Plea for Help and a Statement of Assurance (19:21-27)
 - e. A Warning to the Friends (19:28–29)
 - 5. Zophar's Second Speech (20:1-29)
 - a. Zophar's Reaction to Job's Speech (20:1-3)
 - b. The Sure Fate of Every Evildoer (20:4–29)
 - 6. Job's Sixth Response (21:1–34)
 - a. An Appeal for a Sympathetic Hearing (21:1-6)
 - b. Tough Questions about the Doctrine of Retribution (21:7–33)
 - (1) The Blessings of the Wicked (21:7–16)
 - (2) The Infrequency of the Wicked Being Punished (21:17–21)
 - (3) The Failure of the Doctrine of Retribution (21:22–26)
 - (4) The Rejection of the Friends' Anticipated Rebuttal (21:27-34)
- C. THE THIRD CYCLE (22:1–27:23)
 - 1. Eliphaz's Third Speech (22:1–30)
 - a. Accusations against Job (22:1–11)
 - b. A Disputation concerning God's Activity in Human Affairs (22:12-20)
 - c. A Call to Repentance (22:21–30)
 - 2. Job's Seventh Response (23:1–24:25)

Ilion and Ilamb Apologetics

- a. A Statement of Confidence (23:1–17)
 - (1) Job's Desire to Present His Case before God (23:1–7)
 - (2) God's Hiddenness and Job's Confidence (23:8–12)
 - (3) Trembling before God (23:13–17)
- b. A Complaint about Unjust Social Conditions (24:1-25)
 - (1) The Reign of Evildoers (24:1–17)
 - (a) Civil Injustice (24:1–3, 9, 4–8, 10–11)
 - (b) Criminal Injustice (24:12–17)
 - (2) A Curse on the Wicked (24:18–25)
- 3. Bildad's Third Speech (25:1–6; 27:13–23)
 - a. A Hymn of Praise to God (25:1–6)
 - b. The Certain Retribution of the Wicked (27:13–23)
- 4. Job's Eighth Response (26:1–27:12)
 - a. The Rejection of Bildad's Counsel (26:1-4)
 - b. The Praise of God's Majestic Power (26:5-14)
 - c. Job's Confidence and His Wish (27:1–10)
 - (1) An Avowal of Innocence (27:1–6)
 - (2) An Imprecation against the Enemies (27:7–10)
 - d. Job's Intent to Instruct the Friends (27:11-12)

IV.HYMN TO WISDOM (28:1–28)

- A. HUMAN SKILL IN MINING TECHNOLOGY (28:1–11)
- B. WISDOM'S VALUE, BEYOND PURCHASE (28:12–19)
- C. GOD'S KNOWLEDGE OF WISDOM (28:20-27)
- D. WISDOM FOR MANKIND (28:28)

V. JOB'S AVOWAL OF INNOCENCE (29:1-31:40)

- A. JOB'S REMEMBRANCE OF HIS FORMER ABUNDANT LIFE (29:1-25)
 - 1. God's Rich Blessing (29:1–6)
 - 2. The Respect Job Commanded (29:7–10)
 - 3. Job's Striving for Justice (29:11–17)
 - 4. Job's Hope for a Long, Blessed Life (29:18–20)
 - 5. The Most Respected Elder (29:21–25)
- B. A LAMENT (30:1-31)
 - 1. Job's Present Disgrace (30:1–15)
 - a. The Mockers (30:1–8)
 - b. The Mockery (30:9–15)
 - 2. An Accusation against God (30:16–23)
 - 3. A Self-lament (30:24–31)
- C. AN OATH OF INNOCENCE (31:1-40)



Iliop and Ilamb Apologetics

- 1. The List of Sins Denied (31:1–34, 38–40b)
 - a. Lust (31:1–4)
 - b. Falsehood and Covetousness (31:5-8)
 - c. Adultery (31:9-12)
 - d. Mistreatment of Servants (31:13-15)
 - e. The Poor and the Weak (31:16–23)
 - f. Trust in Wealth and Worship of the Heavenly Bodies (31:24-28)
 - g. Satisfaction at a Foe's Misfortune and Failure to Extend Hospitalily to a Sojourner (31:29–32)
 - h. Concealment of a Sin without Confession (31:33-34)
 - i. Abuse of the Land (31:38–40b)
- 2. The Sealing of the Oath (31:35–37, 40c)

VI. THE ELIHU SPEECHES (32:1-37:24)

- A. INTRODUCTION OF ELIHU (32:1-5)
- B. ELIHU'S SPEECHES (32:6-37:24)
 - 1. Elihu's First Speech (32:6–33:33)
 - a. An Apology (32:6–22)
 - b. A Disputation about God's Efforts to Redeem (33:1-33)
 - (1) A Further Apology (33:1–7)
 - (2) The Disputation Proper (33:8–30)
 - (a) Presentation of Job's Claim to Be Free from Sin (33:8–11)
 - (b) A Response (33:12–30)
 - (i) The Disciplines of God (33:12–22)
 - (ii) The Angel Mediator (33:23-30)
 - (3) An Invitation for Job to Answer (33:31–33)
 - 2. Elihu's Second Speech (34:1–37)
 - a. A Summons to Listen (34:1-4)
 - b. A Disputation (34:5–33)
 - (1) Presentation of Job's Complaint against God (34:5–9)
 - (2) A Response (34:10-30)
 - (a) The Thesis: God's Just Rule (34:10–15)
 - (b) The Defense of the Thesis (34:16–30)
 - (3) A Call for a Decision (34:31–33)
 - c. A Judgment (34:34–37)
 - 3. Elihu's Third Speech (35:1–16)
 - a. Presentation of Job's Concern about His Own Right (35:1-4)
 - b. A Response: God's Sovereign Justice (35:5–16)
 - 4. Elihu's Fourth Speech (36:1-37:24)
 - a. Introduction (36:1–4)

Ilion and Ilamb Apologetics

- b. God's Disciplinary Ways (36:5–25)
 - (1) The Core Teaching (36:5–15)
 - (2) A Warning to Job (36:16–25)
- c. God's Greatness (36:26–37:20)
 - (1) God's Glory Visible in the Thunderstorm (36:26–37:13)
 - (2) An Admonition to Job (37:14–20)
- d. The Divine Splendor (37:21–24)

VII. THE YAHWEH SPEECHES (38:1–42:6)

- A. YAHWEH'S FIRST SPEECH (38:1-40:2)
 - 1. Introduction and Opening Challenge to Job (38:1–3)
 - 2. Interrogation about the Created Order (38:4–39:30)
 - a. The Structure of the World (38:4–24)
 - (1) The Fundamental Structure of the World (38:4–15)
 - (2) The Recesses of the World (38:16–24)
 - b. The Maintenance of the World (38:25–39:30)
 - (1) The Inanimate World (38:25–38)
 - (2) The Animate World (38:39–39:30)
 - (a) The Lioness and the Raven (38:39-41)
 - (b) The Mountain Goat and the Hind (39:1–4)
 - (c) The Wild Ass (39:5–8)
 - (d) The Wild Ox (39:9-12)
 - (e) The Ostrich (39:13-18)
 - (f) The Horse (39:19–25)
 - (g) Birds of Prey (39:26–30)
 - 3. An Invitation for Job to Respond (40:1–2)
- B. JOB'S ANSWER (40:3–5)
- C. YAHWEH'S SECOND SPEECH (40:6-41:26 [ENG. 41:34])
 - 1. Questions concerning Job's Power (40:6–14)
 - 2. Portraits of Two Foreboding Beasts (40:15-41:26 [Eng. 41:34])
 - a. Behemoth (40:15–24)
 - b. Leviathan (40:25-41:26 [Eng. 41:1-34])
- D. JOB'S ANSWER (42:1–6)

VIII. EPILOGUE (42:7–17)

- A. THE CONDEMNATION AND RESTORATION OF THE THREE FRIENDS (42:7–9)
- B. GOD'S BLESSING AND RESTORATION OF JOB (42:10-17)
 - 1. Restoration (42:10)
 - 2. The Visit of Job's Kinsmen and Friends (42:11)

WWW.LIONANDLAMBAPOLOGETICS.ORG

Liop and Lamb Apologetics

7

- 3. The Enumeration of Job's Blessings (42:12–15)
- 4. Job's Epitaph (42:16–17)¹

WWW.LIONANDLAMBAPOLOGETICS.ORG

¹ Hartley, J. E. (1988). <u>*The Book of Job*</u> (pp. 50–56). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.