Job 26:1-27:23 **Greatness of God in Creation – Job maintains his integrity Condemnation from friends not helpful – Expected Fate of the Wicked**

Your Condemnation Has Not Helped or Comforted [Job 26:1-4]

- 1 But Job answered and said:
- 2 "How have you helped him who is without power? How have you saved the arm that has no strength?
- 3 How have you counseled one who has no wisdom? And how have you declared sound advice to many?
- 4 To whom have you uttered words? And whose spirit came from you?

Handiwork Of God In Creation [Job 26:5-14]

- 5 "The dead tremble, Those under the waters and those inhabiting them.
- 6 Sheol is naked before Him, And Destruction has no covering.
- ⁷ He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.
- 8 He binds up the water in His thick clouds, Yet the clouds are not broken under it.
- 9 He covers the face of His throne, And spreads His cloud over it.
- 10 He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, At the boundary of light and darkness.
- 11 The pillars of heaven tremble, And are astonished at His rebuke.
- 12 He stirs up the sea with His power, And by His understanding He breaks up the storm.
- 13 By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent.
- 14 Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?"

Job Maintains His Integrity [Job 27:1-33]

- 1 Moreover Job continued his discourse, and said:
- ² "As El (God) lives, who has taken away my justice, And Shaday (the Almighty), who has made my soul bitter,
- 3 As long as my breath is in me, And the breath of Elowah (God) in my nostrils,
- 4 My lips will not speak wickedness, Nor my tongue utter deceit.
- ⁵ Far be it from me That I should say you are right; Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me
- 6 My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; My heart shall not reproach me as long as I live

Enemies of Job classified with the wicked hypocrites [Job 27:7-12]

- ⁷ "May my enemy be like the wicked, And he who rises up against me like the unrighteous.
- 8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite, Though he may gain much, If Elowah (God) takes away his life?
- 9 Will El (God) hear his cry When trouble comes upon him?
- 10 Will he delight himself in Shaday (the Almighty)? Will he always call on Elowah (God)?
- 11 "I will teach you about the hand of El (God); What is with Shaday (the Almighty) I will not conceal.
- 12 Surely all of you have seen it; Why then do you behave with complete nonsense?

Expectation of the Wicked [Job 27:13-23]

- 13 "This is the portion of a wicked man with El (God), And the heritage of oppressors, received from Shaday (the Almighty):
- 14 If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword; And his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread.
- 15 Those who survive him shall be buried in death, And their widows shall not weep,
- 16 Though he heaps up silver like dust, And piles up clothing like clay —
- 17 He may pile it up, but the just will wear it, And the innocent will divide the silver.
- 18 He builds his house like a moth, Like a booth which a watchman makes.
- 19 The rich man will lie down, But not be gathered up; He opens his eyes, And he is no more.
- 20 Terrors overtake him like a flood; A tempest steals him away in the night.
- 21 The east wind carries him away, and he is gone; It sweeps him out of his place.
- 22 It hurls against him and does not spare; He flees desperately from its power.
- 23 Men shall clap their hands at him, And shall hiss him out of his place.

Facts Revealed:

Your Condemnation Has Not Helped or Comforted [Job 26:1-4]

⇔ But Job answered and said:

"How have you helped him who is without power? How have you saved the arm that has no strength?

How have you counseled one who has no wisdom? And how have you declared sound advice to many?

To whom have you uttered words? And whose spirit came from you? [Job 26:1-4]

- ♦ Job questioned the value of his friends condemnation to achieve comfort for the suffering
 or help for the weak and feeble.
- ♦ He questioned the value of their counsel and advice even for one who has no wisdom.
- ♦ Job asked who they think they are talking to, and from what spirit they are sharing.

Handiwork Of God In Creation [Job 26:5-14]

- **⇔** Details of Creation known to Job:
 - ♦ The dead tremble in the presence of the Almighty.
 - ♦ Elowah is omniscient knowing everything about Sheol and destruction which are naked and exposed before Him.
 - ♦ From the North, Yahweh stretched out the earth in empty space and hung it on nothing.
 - ♦ The clouds are heavy with water and not broken under the weight of it.
 - ♦ His throne is hidden from the eyes of mankind.
 - ♦ The horizon is circular over the waters at the boundary of light and darkness.
 - ♦ The pillars of heaven tremble, and are astonished at His rebuke.
 - ♦ By His Power and understanding He stirs up the sea, and breaks up the storm.
 - ♦ By His Spirit He adorned the heavens Sun, moon, and stars.
 - ♦ His hand pierced the fleeing serpent (Satan).
 - ♦ These are just the edges of His ways, just a small whisper we have heard of Him.
 - ♦ Who can understand the thunder of His power?

Job Maintains His Integrity [Job 27:1-6]

- ♦ Job said that El has taken away his justice, and Shaday has made his soul bitter.
- ♦ Yet as sure as El lives, Job is determined as long as he has breath, to guard his lips from speaking wickedness and his tongue from uttering deceit.
- ♦ Job will in no way agree with their condemnations.
- ♦ Job is determined as long as he lives, to maintain his integrity and hold fast to his righteousness. He will maintain a clear conscience as long as he lives.

Enemies of Job classified with the wicked hypocrites [Job 27:7-12]

- ♦ Job said, "May my enemy be like the wicked, and he who rises up against me like the unrighteous.
- ♦ Job asked "What is the hope of the hypocrite, though he may gain much, If Elowah (God) takes away his life?
 - Will El (God) hear his cry When trouble comes upon him?
 - Will he delight himself in Shaday (the Almighty)? Will he always call on Elowah (God)?
- ♦ "I will teach you about the hand of El (God); What is with Shaday (the Almighty) I will not conceal.
 - Surely all of you have seen it; Why then do you behave with complete nonsense?
- ♦ Job feels he is in a position of experience and can teach his friends about God because their sanctimonious condemnation demonstrates their complete lack of understanding and knowledge of truth.

Expectation of the Wicked [Job 27:13-23]

♦ Job described his expectation of God's judgment against the wicked.