

Eliphaz: Results Of Obedience

Intro: The book of Job has many wonderful and beautiful lessons. It will always stand as a testimony to the lie of Satan that the only reason man serves God is for the reward God provides him. Notice what Satan says in Job 1:9-11 ⁹ Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? ¹⁰ Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. ¹¹ But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.” It also shows that man can remain faithful to God despite the physical circumstances he might face.

Job’s three friends were wrong in what they were telling Job. At the end, God speaks to Eliphaz specifically stating His displeasure with all three of Job’s friends: Job 42:7 ⁷ And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me *the thing that is* right, as my servant Job *hath*.” However, there is a statement Eliphaz makes that is true and what I want us to center our minds on in this lesson. Eliphaz makes the point that when we obey God, there are certain results that take place. Notice with me Job 22:26-27 ²⁶ For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God. ²⁷ Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.”

I. WE TAKE OUR DELIGHT IN GOD.

A. Studying His Word

1. Psa. 1:2 ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”
2. Psa. 119:97 ⁹⁷ O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.”
3. 2 Tim. 2:15 ¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

B. Worshipping Him

1. Psa. 122:1 ¹ I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.”
2. John 4:23-24 ²³ But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. ²⁴ God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

C. Fellowshiping God and faithful brethren

1. Psa. 133:1 ¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”
2. 1 John 1:3-4 ³ That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”

II. WE TURN TO HIM IN CONFIDENCE

A. In prayer

1. Heb. 4:14-16 ¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”
2. 1 John 2:28 ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”

B. In care for us

1. Psa. 103:13 ¹³ Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth [“to behold with tenderest affection, to compassionate” Gesenius] them that fear him.”

2. Psa. 142:4-5 ⁴“I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul. ⁵I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.”
3. 1 Pet. 5:7 ⁷“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”

C. In protection

1. Psa. 46:1 ¹“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”
2. Psa. 91:2-6, 9-10, 14-15 ²“I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. ³Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. ⁴He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. ⁵Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.... ⁹Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; ¹⁰There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.... ¹⁴Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. ¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.”
3. Heb. 13:5-6 ⁵“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. ⁶So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”
4. Rom. 8:31 ³¹“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”

III. WE PRAY

A. God only promises to hear those prayers of His children.

1. Pro. 15:29 ²⁹“The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.”
2. 1 Pet. 3:12 ¹²“For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.”
3. God does not hear the prayers of sinners.
 - a. Pro. 28:9 ⁹“He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.”
 - b. John 9:31 ³¹“Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.”

B. Assurance God will hear us

1. Psa. 4:3 ³“But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.”
2. Mat. 21:22 ²²“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”
3. 1 John 5:14-15 ¹⁴“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: ¹⁵And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”

C. It accomplishes much.

1. Jam. 5:16 ¹⁶“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”
2. 1 John 3:22 ²²“And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”

IV. WE PAY OUR VOWS

A. We do what we have vowed to do in becoming a Christian.

B. In baptism, we are making a change to turn our life over to God.

1. Rom 12:1 ¹“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”
 - a. When did we present (aorist tense showing completed action) our bodies?

- b. When we were baptized into Christ and raised to walk in newness of life; Rom. 6:3-4, 6, 11-13 ³Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.... ⁶Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.... ¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. ¹³Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”
 - 2. Col. 3:1-3 ¹If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. ²Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”
 - a. When were we risen (aorist tense showing completed action) with Christ?
 - b. At the point of baptism when we are raised with Christ; Col. 2:12 ¹²Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.”
- C. Some of these vows include:**
- 1. Attending all worship services.
 - a. Acts 2:42 ⁴²And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
 - b. John 4:23-24 ²³But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. ²⁴God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
 - c. Acts 20:7 ⁷And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”
 - d. 1 Cor. 11:18, 20 ¹⁸For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. ¹⁹For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you. ²⁰When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord’s supper.”
 - (1) Paul condemned the Corinthians for coming together for improper reasons.
 - (2) He did not condemn them for coming together as that is what was expected.
 - 2. Changed attitudes.
 - a. Rom. 12:2 ²And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
 - b. Col. 3:10 ¹⁰And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.”
 - c. Toward God and the world
 - (1) Jam. 4:4 ⁴Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”
 - (2) 1 John 2:15-17 ¹⁵Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”
 - d. Begin partaking God’s nature; 2 Pet. 1:4-7 ⁴Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. ⁵And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; ⁶And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance

patience; and to patience godliness; ⁷ And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.”

3. Change of lifestyle.

- a. Tit. 2:11-12 “¹¹ For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”
- b. Gal. 5:19-25 “¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. ²⁴ And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”
- c. Eph. 4:25-32 “²⁵ Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: ²⁷ Neither give place to the devil. ²⁸ Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. ²⁹ Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. ³⁰ And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: ³² And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”
- d. Eph. 5:8 “⁸ For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.”
- e. Col. 3:5-9, 12-15 “⁵ Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: ⁶ For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: ⁷ In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. ⁸ But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. ⁹ Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;... ¹² Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. ¹⁴ And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

Conclusion: While Eliphaz was condemned at the end, he does make this true statement showing the results of obedience to God. Let us make sure we are always obedient.