



Job's Response to Zophar:

The One Who Really Knows is God (and NOT you)!

Job 12

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• All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

• God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.

• Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

A. Job's Response to Zophar

Then Job answered and said.... - v. 1

1. I am completely equal with you. (vv. 1-3)

Job 12:1-3, MSG -¹ *Job answered: ² "I'm sure you speak for all the experts, and when you die there'll be no one left to tell us how to live. ³ But don't forget that I also have a brain— I don't intend to play second fiddle to you. It doesn't take an expert to know these things.*

2. I am falsely accused by you. (vv. 4-12)

Job 12:4-5, NLT -⁴ *Yet my friends laugh at me, for I call on God and expect an answer. I am a just and blameless man, yet they laugh at me. ⁵ People who are at ease mock those in trouble. They give a push to people who are stumbling.*

3. I have this argument for you. (vv. 13-25)

Only God is all-knowing and all-powerful!

Job 12:13, NLT -¹³ *"But true wisdom and power are found in God; counsel and understanding are his.*

Job 12:13, TLB -¹³ *But true wisdom and power are God's. He alone knows what we should do; only he understands.*

Job 12:13, MSG -¹³ *"True wisdom and real power belong to God; from him we learn how to live, and also what to live for.*

Job points to the wisdom and power of God:

- A. If He tears a thing apart—it cannot be rebuilt.
- B. If He captures a man—he cannot be released.
- C. If He holds back water—it will dry up.
- D. If He sends water—it will overflow the earth.
- E. Wisdom and power belong to Him—all must answer to Him.
- F. He is wiser than the wise—He can make the seemingly wise, fools.
- G. Those who think they have power He can make lowly.
- H. He strips religious leaders of their robes and office.
- I. He takes away the ability to speak of what we thought was wise.
- J. He will put to shame those who think they are mighty/righteous.
- K. He will expose even the darkest corners of everyone's life.
- L. He makes nations great – or will bring them low.
- M. He takes away understanding that people stumble over themselves.
- N. He is the eternal light – without Him there is nothing but darkness.

B. God's Power and Wisdom

C. H. Spurgeon: Job's message to his friends was clear: "I do know God and how great and wise He is. Don't criticize me on this point any longer." Job says...

I know God's power and wisdom over physical things.

I know God's power and wisdom over men.

I know God's power and wisdom over their thoughts.

I know God's power and wisdom over their rulers.

I know God's power and wisdom over their eloquence.

I know God's power and wisdom over their darkness.

I know God's power and wisdom over all nations.

"God alone can *create*, and God alone can *destroy*. Nothing can be annihilated but by the same Power that created it. This is a most remarkable fact. No power, skill, or cunning of man can annihilate the smallest particle of matter. Man, by chemical agency, may change its *form*; but to reduce it to *nothing* belongs to God alone." (Dr. H. De Cruz)