

Devotional Questions – Job 25

1. *What does Bildad say about God (Job 25:2-3)?*
2. *What application did Bildad make (Job 25:4)?*
3. *What are the armies of God (Job 25:3)?*
4. *What two questions did Bildad ask in response to Job's claim of innocence (Job 25:4-6)?*
 - a.
 - b.
5. *What application did Bildad make (Job 25:5)?*
6. *How would we answer these questions today?*
7. *Are men no more than maggots* and worms in the sight of God (Job 25:6)? Why or why not?*
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8. *What is true in Bildad's response?*
9. *What is false in Bildad's response?*
10. *What help is all this to us today?*

Devotional Questions – Job 25, Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Job* pp 330-336 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 914, 1260-1261 for detailed comment.

1. What does Bildad say about God (Job 25:2-3)?

Job 25:2-3 state ***“Dominion and fear are with him, he maketh peace in his high places. Is there any number of his armies? and upon whom doth not his light arise?”***

Job 25:2-3 show that:

- ***“Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations”*** Psalm 145:13.
- ***“I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him”*** Ecclesiastes 3:14.
- ***“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven...Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time”*** Revelation 12:7-8, 12 and context. That is when ***“he maketh peace in his high places”*** Job 25:2. The occasion is yet future.

“...on earth peace, good will toward men” Luke 2:14 will be established following the Second Advent when ***“In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth. He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth”*** Psalm 72:7-8.

- ***“Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners. Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?...Return, return, O Shulamite; return, return, that we may look upon thee. What will ye see in the Shulamite? As it were the company of two armies”*** Song of Solomon 6:4, 10, 13.

“As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me” Jeremiah 33:22.

“And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?” Daniel 4:35.

Jeremiah 33:22 ***“...the host of heaven cannot be numbered...”*** explains Bildad's rhetorical question ***“Is there any number of his armies?”*** Job 25:3. Further scriptures, Song of Solomon 6:4, 10, 13, Daniel 4:35, reveal that the Lord has an army that consists of *two* armies that are ***“a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude”*** 1 Kings 3:8. However ***“the captain of the LORD's host”*** Joshua 5:15 ***“the captain of their salvation”*** Hebrews 2:10 continues to invite more enlistees for which He imposes no limit on numbers.

“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else” Isaiah 45:22.

- ***“If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee”*** Psalm 139:11-12.

“Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD” Jeremiah 23:23-24.

In sum, Job 25:2-3 testify to God's omnipotence that today's believer should remember. **"And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:...And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth"** Revelation 19:1, 6.

2. What application did Bildad make (Job 25:4)?

Job 25:4 states **"How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?"** Bildad has made the same application that Job has made earlier. **"I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God? If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand"** Job 9:2-3.

Job and Bildad are both right. No-one **"can...be justified with God"** Job 25:4 pre-Calvary as Paul explains. **"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus"** Romans 3:24-26.

3. What are the armies of God (Job 25:3)?

See *Question 1* and Song of Solomon 6:4, 10, 13. These are the armies that the Lord Jesus Christ leads out at the Second Advent. They include today's believers. **"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean"** Revelation 19:11, 14.

4. What two questions did Bildad ask in response to Job's claim of innocence (Job 25:4-6)?

- a. **"How then can man be justified with God?"** Job 25:4 as Job had asked **"...but how should man be just with God?"** Job 9:2. See *Question 2* for Paul's answer, Romans 3:24-26.
- b. Solomon expresses the essential question of Job 25:6 as follows. **"Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?"** Proverbs 20:9.

Note that the Lord Himself reveals the way of cleansing and purity in both Testaments.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" Isaiah 1:18. Reason should lead to repentance as the Lord Himself and Paul make clear.

"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance" Matthew 3:8 with, for example, Isaiah 1:16-20.

"...ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner...For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of...For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter" 2 Corinthians 7:9-10, 11. 2 Corinthians 7:9-10, 11 apply specifically to the Corinthian Church's restitution of right standards of conduct before God in response to Paul's reproach of 1 Corinthians 5:1-5. 2 Corinthians 7:9-10, 11 nevertheless depict **"the power of God unto salvation"** Romans 1:16 in the heart of the repentant individual.

5. *What application did Bildad make (Job 25:5)?*

Job 25:5 states ***“Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in his sight.”*** Bildad has said that the moon is dead and as Eliphaz said before him ***“...the heavens are not clean in his sight”*** Job 15:15. So is ***“the natural man”*** 1 Corinthians 2:14 as Isaiah said. ***“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away”*** Isaiah 64:6.

6. *How would we answer these questions today?*

See *Question 4* and remarks.

7. *Are men no more than maggots* and worms in the sight of God (Job 25:6)? Why or why not?*

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“...the men that have transgressed against me” Isaiah 66:24 ***“the children of the wicked one”*** Matthew 13:38 ***“the children of the devil”*** 1 John 3:10 in whom ***“iniquity was found in thee...and thou hast sinned”*** Ezekiel 28:15-16 are each ***“a worm”*** Job 25:6 twice. They each remain ***“the natural man”*** 1 Corinthians 2:14 and will bear the image of ***“your father the devil”*** John 8:44 ***“the crooked serpent”*** Job 26:13 ***“that crooked serpent”*** Isaiah 27:1 in eternity ***“Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched”*** Mark 9:44, 46, 48 with Isaiah 66:24. Note that the Lord Jesus Christ took on that form when ***“...made...to be sin for us, who knew no sin”*** 2 Corinthians 5:21 as He testified through David ***“I am a worm, and no man”*** Psalm 22:6. Therefore ***“...his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men”*** Isaiah 52:14 when ***“as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life”*** John 3:14-15 with Numbers 21:8. The NIVs cut out ***“should not perish.”***

By contrast ***“the children of the kingdom”*** Matthew 13:38 ***“the children of God”*** 1 John 3:10 today’s believers will be at the Lord’s Return as Paul states ***“And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly”*** 1 Corinthians 15:49.

8. *What is true in Bildad’s response?*

Job 25:1-6 is correct with respect to God, ***“the moon...the stars”*** Job 25:5 with Genesis 1:8 and ***“...man, that is a worm...”*** Job 25:6 ***“the natural man”*** 1 Corinthians 2:14. See *Questions 1-7*.

9. *What is false in Bildad’s response?*

Nothing is false in what Job 25:1-6 says. See *Question 8*. However, Bildad asks ***“How then can man be justified with God?...”*** Job 25:4 even though Job has already said ***“...but how should man be just with God?”*** Job 9:2-3. See *Question 2*.

If Bildad has therefore used his question in an effort to evade Job’s question ***“And if it be not so now, who will make me a liar, and make my speech nothing worth?”*** Job 24:25 by implying to Job that you’re unjust before God as you’ve said yourself so therefore we don’t have to answer you, that would be a false and indeed arrogant response according to Proverbs 12:18. ***“There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.”*** Solomon therefore understood Bildad’s high-handed evasion, if such it was. ***“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee”*** Proverbs 23:7.

10. *What help is all this to us today?*

Today’s believer should again remember Paul’s admonition. See www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php Job 20, *Question 1*.

“Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man” Colossians 4:6.