**Chiastic Structure of the Book of Job, Part 73**

**L.’ The Words of Job (29:1-31:40)**

**A. His Past Testimony (Job 29:1-25**)

1. His Years as a Minor (Job 29:1-6)

**2. His Years of Maturity (Job 29:7-17)**

3. His Years of Maintenance (Job 29:18-25)

**B. His Present Testing (Job 30:1-31)**

**A.’ His Past Testimony (Job 31:1-40)**

**PREMISE: Job thought about and rejoiced in his personal history to encourage him in testing.  He was indeed a righteous man as the Lord averred, and he gave an impartial and true evaluation of his testimony. Job pictured Christ: *“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich”*(II Cor. 8:9)**

A. **His Prospect for Self (v. 18)**

***1. His Home (v. 18a)*** *“nest” > qen* (13x) > *contra*> Job 1:13-19

***2. His Health (18b)*** *“sand” > chol* (23x) innumerable > cf. Gen. 22:17 (he was 70 and Lord doubled his age to 140 + 70 = 210 [Job 42:16]) > 1 Ki. 5:9

**B. His Prosperity (vv. 19-24)**

 ***1. His Prosperity Expanded (v. 19)*** like a well-watered tree (Ps. 1:3)

***2. His Prosperity Energized (v. 20)*** His prestige and strength or power flourished > Job 19:9; 40:10.

 ***3. His Prosperity Empowered (vv. 21-22)***

a. As a Counselor (v. 21 > cf. Job 29:7)

b. As a Closer (v. 22) > he concluded his truthful discourse with no unturned truth! As a teacher his authoritative teaching came down to them; cf. James the pastor (Acts 15:13, 19)

c. As a Comforter (v. 23) > they waited for his refreshing and comforting words as warm spring rains (Prov. 16:15)

 ***4. His Prosperity Encouraged (v. 24)***

a. His Laughter (*sachaq* [Job 5:22; Eccl. 3:4]) > they couldn’t believe his pleasantries with them

 b. His Light > they received and enjoyed his smile toward them

**A.’ His Prospect for Society (v. 25)**

 ***1. His Control (v. 25a)*** he was a chief (*rosh*) helping to direct them

***2. His Compassion (v. 25b)*** he was a compassionate king (*melech*) > he took care of his army of followers

**CONCLUSION: *“But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips” (Job 2:10).***