**Chiastic Structure of the Book of Job, Part 78**

**L.’ The Words of Job (29:1-31:40)**

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

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

1. Now His Disgrace by the Lowly (vv. 1-8)

 2. Now His Disrespect with Laughter (vv. 9-15)

 1.’ Now His Disgrace by the Lord (vv. 16-31)

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

 **1. His Declarations of Innocence (vv. 1-34)**

 **2. His Desire of Inquest (v. 35)**

 **1.’ His Declarations of Intent (vv. 36-40)**

**PREMISE: The last discourse by Job was an affidavit of a series of oaths (*‘im* [17x] vv. 5-39) to be weighed by a just Judge. He claimed he had no faults—but suffered anyway. *“I find no fault in him”* (Jn. 18:38; 19:4, 6)**

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

**1. His Declarations of Innocence (vv. 1-34)**

***a. The Declaration of Innocence in His Personal life (vv. 1-12)>*** His Disavowal, Dissipation, Disavowal of Immorality

***b. The Declaration of Innocence in His Public Life (vv. 13-23)***

**1. His Motivation was the Fear of God (vv. 13-15)**

 a. His Situation with Employees (v. 13)

 1) His Attitude (v. 13a) > *“despise” > ma’as* (76x) see Job 5:17

 2) His Answer (v. 13b) > *“contended” > riv* (67x) > Job 9:3

 b. His Standing with *‘Elohiym* (vv. 14-15)

 1) His Answer (v. 14) > when God judges!

 a) God Riseth up > *qum*

b) God Visiteth > *paqad*

c) God’s Answer > *shuv*

 2) His Association (v. 15) > commonness of Adam’s race

 a) Made me in womb > *beten* (“bottom”)

 b) Fashion us in womb > Ps. 139:13

 **2. His Manner was the Love of Man (vv. 16-22)**

 a. His Conditional Practice (vv. 16-21)

 1) Towards the Poor (v. 16a) > withheld desire > Job 5:15-16

 2) Towards the Widow (v. 16b) > eyes fail > Job 24:21

3) Towards the Fatherless (vv. 17-18) > share food with male or female orphan > he raised orphans as their father!

 4) Towards the Perishing (v. 19a) > no clothing > Job furnished clothing

5) Towards the Poor (v. 19b-20) > and warm clothing

 6) Towards the Fatherless (v. 21) > not helped as a judge

b. His Consequential Punishment (v. 22) > if…self imprecation!

 1) Arm Bladeless > take away Job’s ability to help!

 2) Arm Boneless > double concept for intensity!

**1.’ His Motivation was the Fear of God (v. 23)**

a. The Possibility of His Punishment (v. 23a) > possibility of losing all!

 b. The Pressure of His Presence (v. 23b) > God dealt with his conscience!

**c. The Declaration of Innocence in His Pious Life (vv. 24-34)**

**2. His Desire for Inquest (v. 35)**

**1.’ His Declaration of Intent (vv. 36-40)**

**CONCLUSION: Job avowed that he was innocent of sexual sins and of social sins.**