**Chiastic Structure of the Book of Job, Part 108**

**D. The Dialogue of Eliphaz and Job (**[**4:1-7:21**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job4%3A1-7%3A21&version=NRSV)**)**

**E. The Dialogue of Bildad and Job (**[**8:1-10:22**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job8%3A1-10%3A22&version=NRSV)**)**

**F. The Dialogue of Zophar (**[**11:1-14:22**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job11%3A1-14%3A22&version=NRSV)**)**

**F.’ The Monologue of the LORD (**[**40:1-2**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job40%3A1-2&version=NRSV)**)**

**E.’ The Monologue of Job (**[**40:3-5**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job40%3A3-5&version=NRSV)**)
 D.’ The Monologue of the LORD (**[**40:6-41:26**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job40%3A6-41%3A26&version=NRSV)**)**

**PREMISE: Job thought he understood Jehovah and questioned the Lord’s methodology for dealing his choice servant. He did not understand the *“mind of Christ”* (I Cor. 2:16) and approached God with human logic. Job’s selfish reasoning or bargaining was strongly rebuked and then he recognized that he had better shut his mouth.**

**F.’ The Monologue of the LORD (**[**40:1-2**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Job40%3A1-2&version=NRSV)**)**

1. The Response (v. 1) > the Lord answered (cf. 31:35)

 2. The Reprimand (v. 2)

 a. The Contention (*riyb*) > Job 9:1-3

 b. The Challenge > Let the reprover answer > *“answer”* (see Job 42:1) > he will not and cannot!

1) The Problem > *“instruct”* or “faultfinder” (*yisor* [1x]) God > Rom. 11:34 (Isa. 40:13)

2) The Person > *“the Almighty”* (*shadday* [31x in Job])

**E.’ The Monologue of Job (40:3-5)**

1. His Response (vv. 3-4)

a. Self Condemnation (v. 3a) > *“vile”* (*qalal* [82x]) > Job 24:18 >*“cursed”*

b. Self Conundrum (v. 3b) > what to answer?

c. Self Constraint (v. 4) > I will be silent!

2. His Rationale >

 a. Once Spoken (v. 5a) > Job 9:22; 32-35 > God destroys perfect and wicked. Why?!

 b. Twice Spoken (v. 5b) > Job 33:14 (idiomatic)

**CONCLUSION:**

Job did not understand God’s mercy: Conservative Christianity and itsBible colleges, churches, and Christian homes have check sheets, and some think that when the believer checks off all for 100% grade, then the Lord is pleased and blesses! Who started the check list? Adam and Eve > Rule #1 “Don’t touch the tree”! Rules should be obeyed from the heart of love and not from the demerits of fear! This eliminates the gracious grace of the gracious God who gives grace when we fail or pass because that is His gracious nature. He wants the believer to have a Spirit-filled relationship with Him regardless of our 100% score on our *puny* check sheets! The fundamentalist’ mentality that we all have, needs to be dropped and replaced with the *“mind of Christ”*! The seven spiritual gifts focus on the check sheet differently. *Prophecy* demands a perfect 100% on the check sheet always*. Service* works on accomplishing the check sheet. *Teaching* instructs about the theory of the check sheet. *Exhortation* encourages compliance to the check sheet. *Giving* emphasizes the stewardship of the perfect check sheet. *Ruling* expects that no rule on the check sheet is ever broken. *Mercy* seeks love through compliance to check sheets. The fruit of the Spirit comes through the righteousness of Christ (cf. Gal. 5:18, 22-23) and not through some burden of legalism (cf. I Tim. 1:15-17). Let us focus on our heart and not our check sheet.