

Elihu: Job's Righteousness Doesn't Compare To God's

Job 35

Group ¹	C	V	Description
Elihu Sharply Reproves Job	35	1-8	God's righteousness is greater than any man's
		9-16	Elihu says that God doesn't answer men's cries out of their pride; men must wait for God's answer in His time

Reflections

One of the great dangers any one may face is that of pride in oneself, especially before God. Below is a table I compiled, with the aid of Wikipedia and other sources², that gives a couple of lists of sins a person should be weary of. There are other places where lists of sins are presented that could be included from the New Testament.

Ten Commandments	Proverbs	Galatians	7 Deadly Sins
<p>Exodus 20:1-17 NASB Then God spoke all these words, saying,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before Me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. "Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; <i>in it</i> you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. 	<p>Proverbs 6:16-19 NASB There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, A false witness <i>who</i> utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers. 	<p>Galatians 5:19-21 NASB Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lust Gluttony Greed Sloth Wrath Envy Pride

¹ (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

² ("Seven Deadly Sins"; "Ten Commandments"; Torrey; Smith; (NASB) *Topical Reference Bible*)

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Ten Commandments	Proverbs	Galatians	7 Deadly Sins
<p>"For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.</p> <p>5. "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.</p> <p>6. "You shall not murder.</p> <p>7. "You shall not commit adultery.</p> <p>8. "You shall not steal.</p> <p>9. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.</p> <p>10. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."</p>			
<p>(see also Eze 22:6-13; Mat 15:18-19; Mar 7:21-23; Rom 1:21-32; 1Co 6:9-10; 2Co 12:20-21; Eph 4:17-19, 5:3-6; Col 3:5-8; 1Ti 1:9-10; Tit 3:3; Jam 3:14-15; 1Pe 4:3-4; Rev 21:8, 22:15)</p>			

I would be remiss if I didn't include what the Christian is to pursue. Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5-7 and the Sermon on the Plain from Luke 6 should be included also but they would be too long a quote to include here.

1 Corinthians	Galatians	2 Peter
<p>1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NASB Love is patient, love is kind <i>and</i> is not jealous; love does not brag <i>and</i> is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong <i>suffered</i>, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; but if <i>there are gifts of</i> prophecy, they will be done away; if <i>there are</i> tongues, they will cease; if <i>there is</i> knowledge, it will be done away.</p>	<p>Galatians 5:22-23 NASB But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.</p>	<p>2 Peter 1:5-9 NASB Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in <i>your</i> moral excellence, knowledge, and in <i>your</i> knowledge, self-control, and in <i>your</i> self-control, perseverance, and in <i>your</i> perseverance, godliness, and in <i>your</i> godliness, brotherly kindness, and in <i>your</i> brotherly kindness, love. For if these <i>qualities</i> are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these <i>qualities</i> is blind <i>or</i> short-sighted, having forgotten <i>his</i> purification from his former sins.</p>

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Paul's message to the Romans seems to fit best here.

Romans 6:1-11 NASB What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? **2** May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; **7** for he who has died is freed from sin. **8** Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. **10** For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. **11** Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Our salvation is nothing that we can earn by doing these things but hopefully we will want to pursue them out of response to God's mercy (not giving us what we deserve) and grace (giving us what we didn't deserve) and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, His Son.

Key Words: Old Testament, Wisdom, Job, Elihu, Righteousness, Pride



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