



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Job 16:1 – 5

“Then Job answers, “I have heard many such things; Miserable comforters are you all! ... I also could speak as you do. If your soul were in my soul’s place, I could heap up words against you, and shake my head at you, but *instead* I would strengthen you with my mouth, and *I would* comfort you with *my lips* and *I would* relieve your grief.” Job 16:1-5

How easily we make judgments on other people! Our words strike hard against them and instead of comfort or encouragement we may offer well meaning, but non-the-less, verbally abusive words. Job is correct, our words should bring peace not accusations; help not more grief! “Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man.” (Colossians 4:6)

And should not the standard for the prophet be also applied to the servant of the Lord? “But he that prophesies speaks unto men to edification and exhortation, and comfort.” (1 Corinthians 14:3).

It is not difficult to point our finger and as Job says, “shake my head at you,” when we are “giving advice” to those in trouble. But the Master established for us a standard for all conduct, didn’t He? “As you would have me treat you, so you should treat others.” (Luke 6:31).

So then, with the Lord’s help, offer words of strength and words of comfort; bless with words that relieve suffering and pain. Do your best to never add more burdens upon the backs of those in trouble with your words!

Pray now for those in trouble or who are facing difficulties.

“Lord, today I pray for....”

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