

## January 10 Answers

- 1) Zophar was **insulted** and upset by Job's words, and he expanded on his previous comments by claiming that the wicked may prosper for a **short** time, but God **quickly** destroys them (Job 20:5–7). Job sighed in frustration. His friends couldn't see the **fallacy** of thinking that because sin often leads to suffering, suffering therefore **proves** sin. Job asked, 'If the triumph of the wicked is short, then why do the wicked live on, growing **old** and increasing in **power**?' He then gave example after example of how the wicked are rich, powerful and long-lived. Job's observations come close to being a preface for **Ecclesiastes**: the prosperous and the poor both suffer the same fate (cf. Ecc 2:14–17).