

# Job 25:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?

## Analysis

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Bildad's question: 'How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?' This raises the fundamental problem of human sinfulness before divine holiness. While the question is legitimate, Bildad uses it to deny any defense rather than point toward grace.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern purity concepts emphasized ritual cleanliness, but Bildad speaks of ontological uncleanness. His question anticipates Paul's in Romans 3:20-24, though Bildad lacks the answer of justification by faith.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How can fallen humans be justified before holy God?
2. What answer does the gospel provide to Bildad's question?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמְהִיא בְּצָדֶקְתִּי אֵיךְ וְשָׁמַע אֶל־עַמְּךָ וּמְהִיא בְּצָדֶקְתִּי  
H4100 be justified H5973 with God H4100 or how can he be clean  
H6663 H582 H410 H2135

תִּלְיָ אֲשֶׁר:  
that is born of a woman  
H3205 H802

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 5:1** (Righteousness): Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Psalms 130:3** (Parallel theme): If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

**Job 9:2** (Righteousness): I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?

**Psalms 143:2** (Righteousness): And enter not into judgment with thy servant: for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

**1 John 1:9** (Righteousness): If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Zechariah 13:1** (Parallel theme): In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

**Revelation 1:5** (Parallel theme): And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

**Psalms 51:5** (Parallel theme): Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**Ephesians 2:3** (Parallel theme): Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

