

CYCLE 1

(Job 4-14)

Eliphaz



Job



Bildad



Job



Zophar



Job

CYCLE 2

(Job 15-21)

Eliphaz



Job



Bildad



Job



Zophar



Job

CYCLE 3

(Job 22-27)

Eliphaz



Job



Bildad



Job

Job 27:2-6

As surely as God lives, who has denied me justice, the Almighty, who has made my life bitter, as long as I have life within me, the breath of God in my nostrils, my lips will not say anything wicked, and my tongue will not utter lies. I will never admit you are in the right; till I die, I will not deny my integrity. I will maintain my innocence and never let go of it; my conscience will not reproach me as long as I live.

Job 29:2-5

How I long for the months gone by, for the days when God watched over me, when his lamp shone on my head and by his light I walked through darkness! Oh, for the days when I was in my prime, when God's intimate friendship blessed my house, when the Almighty was still with me and my children were around me

Job 29:14-16

I put on righteousness as my clothing;
justice was my robe and my turban. I
was eyes to the blind and feet to the
lame. I was a father to the needy; I
took up the case of the stranger.

Job 30:1, 9-10

But now they mock me, men younger than I, whose fathers I would have disdained to put with my sheep dogs. ... And now those young men mock me in song; I have become a byword among them. They detest me and keep their distance; they do not hesitate to spit in my face.

Job 30:20-21

I cry out to you, God, but you do not answer; I stand up, but you merely look at me. You turn on me ruthlessly; with the might of your hand you attack me.

Job 31:1-8, 35

I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman. For what is our lot from God above, our heritage from the Almighty on high? Is it not ruin for the wicked, disaster for those who do wrong? Does he not see my ways and count my every step? "If I have walked with falsehood or my foot has hurried after deceit— let God weigh me in honest scales and he will know

Job 31:1-8, 35

that I am blameless—if my steps have turned from the path, if my heart has been led by my eyes, or if my hands have been defiled, then may others eat what I have sown, and may my crops be uprooted. ... Oh, that I had someone to hear me! I sign now my defense—let the Almighty answer me; let my accuser put his indictment in writing.

Job's friends have the outward appearance of religiosity, but their faith lacks any real substance.

Job 4:3-5

Think how you have instructed many, how you have strengthened feeble hands. Your words have supported those who stumbled; you have strengthened faltering knees. But now trouble comes to you, and you are discouraged; it strikes you, and you are dismayed.

When life is going great,
you have the luxury of a
sloppy and simplistic
theology.

Job knows enough to understand that his previous view of God was too simplistic, even distorted, but he doesn't where to find deeper answers to his faith struggle.

Job's
Speech

?

Job's
Speech

26

27

28

29

30

31

complaint,
cry for
justice

wisdom

complaint,
cry for
justice

26

27

28

29

30

31

Job 28:1-6, 9-11

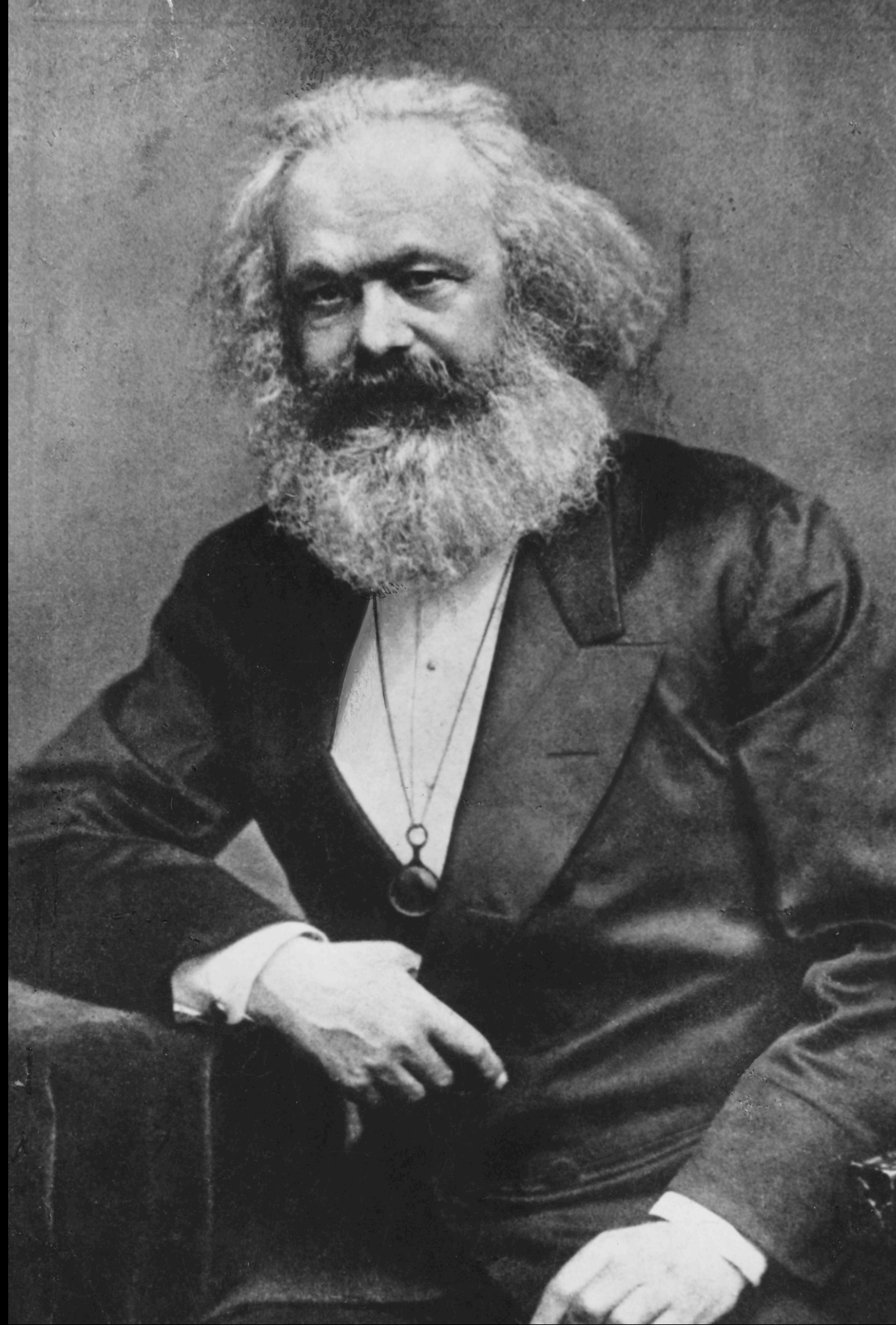
There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore. Mortals put an end to the darkness; they search out the farthest recesses for ore in the blackest darkness. Far from human dwellings they cut a shaft, in places untouched by human feet; far from other people they dangle and sway. The earth, from which

Job 28:1-6, 9-11

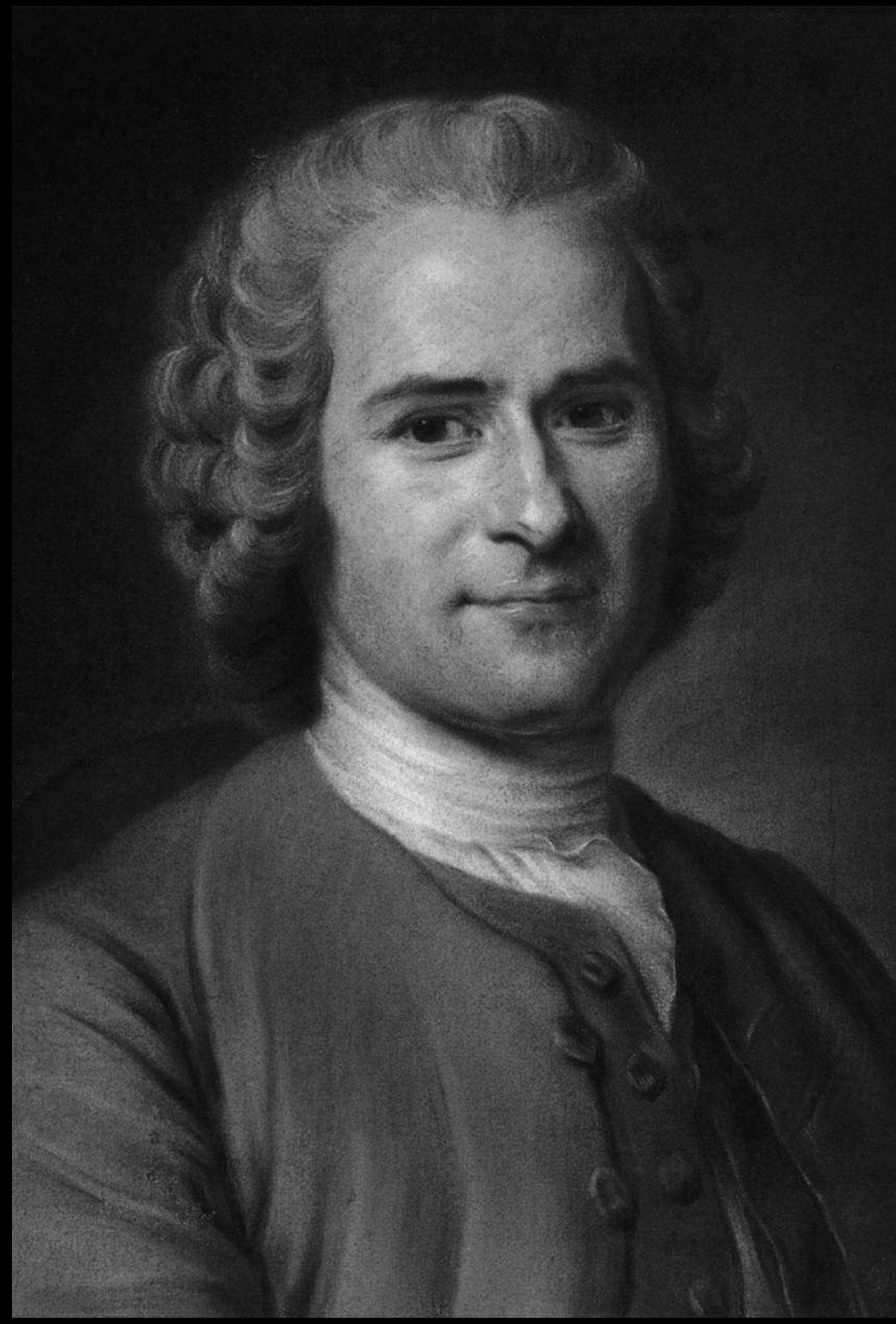
food comes, is transformed below as by fire; lapis lazuli comes from its rocks, and its dust contains nuggets of gold. ... People assault the flinty rock with their hands and lay bare the roots of the mountains. They tunnel through the rock; their eyes see all its treasures. They search the sources of the rivers and bring hidden things to light.

Job 28:12-15, 20-21

But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell? No mortal comprehends its worth; it cannot be found in the land of the living. The deep says, "It is not in me"; the sea says, "It is not with me." It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed out in silver. ... Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds in the sky.



Karl Marx



Jean-Jacques
Rousseau



Henrik Ibsen

Job 28:23-28

God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters, when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; he confirmed it and tested it. And he said to the human race, "The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding."





Forrest Gump







