CONTENTS

INT	INTRODUCTION				
A Synopsis of the Book					
	The Se	tting of the Book of Job in the History			
	of	the Religions of the Ancient Near East	5		
	The Pla	ace of Job in the History of Israel's Religion	12		
	Approa	ch to the Interpretation of the Text	15		
	Matters	s of Text: Translation and Integrity	22		
	Outline	e of This Commentary	25		
CON	AMENTA	RY			
PAR	t One:				
Prologue		A Dialogue of Heaven and Earth	31		
Job .	1—2				
	1:1-5	Narrative Introduction to Job Himself	34		
	1:6–12	First Scene in Heaven: A Question Which Sets the Drama in Motion	37		
	1:13-22	First Scene on Earth: Job's Affirmative Response to His Calamity	42		
	2:1 - 7a	Second Scene in Heaven: The Heavenly Question Given Sharper Point	44		
	2:7 <i>b</i> -10	Second Scene on Earth:			
		Job's Ambiguous Response to His Deepened Calamity	47		
	2:11-13	Narrative Conclusion:			
		Introducing Job's Friends and Alluding to His Growing Pain	56		
	T Two:				
Dial Job	logue: Fir: 3—14	st Cycle	61		
	3	Job's Opening Soliloquy: "To Have Been or not to Have Been"	61		
	4-5	Eliphaz's First Response:			
		"Remember the Consolation			
		You Have Given Others"	71		

INTERPRETATION

6-7	Job Moves from Soliloquy to Dialogue with the Friends and with God	76			
8	Bildad's First Response: "Trust the Tradition of the Ancestors"	83			
9—10	Job Responds to Bildad by Seeking Common Ground with God in th Sensibilities of Law-court and Workshop	e 88			
11	Zophar's First Response: On the Hidden Depths of Divine Wisdom	97			
12—14	Job's Response to Zophar Concluding the First Cycle	101			
PART THREE: Dialogue: Second Cycle 115 Job 15—21					
15	Eliphaz's Second Response to Job Challenging His Implied Standpoint	115			
16—17	Job Responds to Eliphaz II: On Comfort, Witness, and the Energy of Hope	e 122			
18	Bildad's Second Response to Job: The Place of the Wicked in a Moral Universe	127			
19	Job's Response to Bildad II: A Sense of Kinship Beyond a Sense of Total Abandonment	131			
20	Zophar's Second Response to Job: The Portion of the Wicked in a Moral Universe	e 150			
21	Job's Response to Zophar II: The True Horror of the Fate of the Wicked	154			
Part Four: Dialogue: Thi Job 22—27	rd Cycle	161			
22	Eliphaz's Third Response to Job: Direct Attack and Renewed Appeal for Submission	161			

23–24 Job's Response to Eliphaz III: A Search for God in Space and Time 25–27 The Dialogue Breaks Down PART FIVE: Soliloquy Job 28–31	Contents 164 171
28 A Meditation on Wisdom 29–31 Job's s	187
Recollection of Things Past, Recognition of Things Present, and a Final Oath	187
A Voice for God, the Voice of God, and Job's Response Job 32-42:6	201
as an Inspired Variation of Elihu	217
to a collone from the second s	217
42:1-6 Job's Response to Yahweh: Confession as Covenant Speech	225
Epilogue Job 42:7–17 Order and Freedom in Felicity	247
42:7-9 Yahweh on La	261
	262
OGRAPHV	67
27	71