

The Book of Job

Lesson 10 – Chapters 38-42:6

- 1) What is God saying about Job in Job 38:2? How do you think this would make Job feel?

- 2) In Job 38:4-38, what is God asking Job? (See 4,12, 16, and 33.)

- 3) In Job 38:39-39:30, what is God asking Job? (See 1, 5, 6, 19, and 26.)

- 4) Describe Job's first response to God in Job 40:3-5. Does he confess any sin? Does he retract anything he has said? What would you do if your child answered you with silence?

- 5) In Job 40:8-14, God states the personal issue between Job and God. What is it?
 - a) A _____ in Job's day would not only pass a sentence, but also then set things right for the injured party.
 - b) _____ in the world is _____ responsibility.
 - c) Any person who, by complaining about particular events in his life, implies that he could propose to God better ways of running the universe than those God currently uses is _____ here.

- 6) Describe Job's final response to God in Job 42:1-6. Of what does he repent?
 - a) Job withdraws from his _____ that _____ was _____.

- 7) Job is content, even though:
 - a) _____ of his questions are answered.
 - b) He isn't _____.
 - c) He is still _____.

Parting thought:

It's all about God, not _____.

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Lesson 9 – Chapters 32-37

- 1) If God is good, why is there suffering?
 - a) Not all pain is evil.
 - b) "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience but shouts in our pains. Pain is God's megaphone to arouse a deaf world." –C.S. Lewis
 - c) Since God is good, and he created this world, there was no better way to create it, otherwise, being good, He would have done it that way.
 - d) There is much more to this world than we see.
 - e) Freewill: "Have you ever done anything wrong? God didn't stop you from doing what you wanted. If he stopped other's hurtful actions, he'd have to stop you too."
 - f) Why there is pain: "So we could have this conversation."
 - g) Isaiah 57:1, why do righteous people die? To be spared from evil.
 - h) God is not the cause of evil in the world, but as creator He has paid the cost for sin. (Analogy of the owner of a company full of people with freewill.)
- 2) What does Job 33:14-19 and 2 Corinthians 12:7 give in common as a reason God allows suffering?
God may permit us to suffer to keep us from sin.
- 3) What characteristics of God does Elihu bring out in Job 33:23-30?
God's love for man and His grace.
- 4) In Job 35:9-16, Elihu deals with a question that Job asked: Why doesn't God answer prayer. What is Elihu's answer to this question?
"Because of sin in your life, Job." v. 12. "You are not praying right." (v. 16) The Elihu's of this world have a nice tidy answer for unanswered prayer. Job, in contrast, "lives in the suspense of faith, praying without guarantees." (Andersen)
In this passage, one beautiful thought that Elihu gives is that God gives us 'songs in the night.' v. 10.
- 5) In Job 36:15-16, we learn:
 - a) Every experience, good or bad, brings new opportunities to learn more about God.
 - b) Suffering has an end.
 - c) God does not abandon us.
- 6) What is Elihu's final conclusion in Job 37:14-24?
"If you can't explain to us the everyday things of nature, then how will you ever prepare a court case to defend yourself before God?"

Parting thoughts

- Don't pray for fewer problems; pray for more skills.
- Don't ask for smaller challenges; ask for greater wisdom.
- Don't look for an easy way out; look for the best possible outcome.
- When life gives you a kick; let it kick you forward.
- How big is your God? Big enough to intervene? Big enough to be trusted? Big enough to be held in awe and ultimate respect? Big enough to erase your worries and replace them with peace?
- When your God is too small, your problems are magnified and you retreat in fear and insecurity. When your God is great, your problems pale into insignificance and you stand in awe as you worship the King.
- How big is your God?