

# The Book of Job

## Lesson 9 – Chapters 32-37

- 1) What does Job 33:14-19 and 2 Corinthians 12:7 give in common as a reason God allows suffering?
  
- 2) What characteristics of God does Elihu bring out in Job 33:23-30?
  
- 3) 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?
  
- 4) In Job 36:15-16, we learn:
  - a) Every experience, good or bad, brings new opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - b) Suffering has an \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - c) God does not \_\_\_\_\_ us.
  
- 5) What is Elihu's final conclusion in Job 37:14-24?

### Parting thoughts

- Don't pray for fewer \_\_\_\_\_; pray for more skills.
- Don't ask for smaller challenges; ask for greater \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don't look for an easy way out; look for the best possible \_\_\_\_\_.
- When life gives you a kick; let it kick you \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 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?

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## Lesson 8 – Chapters 27-31

- 1) If God is good, why is there suffering?
  - Not all pain is evil.
  - "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
  - 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.
  - There is much more to this world than we see.
  - 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."
  - Why there is pain: "So we could have this conversation."
  - Isaiah 57:1, why do righteous people die? To be spared from evil.
  - 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 is Job saying in Job 27:2-6? I swear by the life of God that I will never admit that you all are right in saying I am a hypocrite. In a world where God is the sole Maker and Owner, Job looks to God to set right the wrongs that must be His full responsibility.
- 3) Chapter 28 is divided into 3 parts:
  - Verses 1-11 indicates that human research has not discovered wisdom.
  - Verses 13-19 indicates that wealth cannot purchase wisdom.
  - Verses 21-27 declare that God alone has wisdom.
  - Verse 28 wisdom is the fear of the Lord.
- 4) Chapter 29 outline:
  - Verses 2-6, what is the first joy that Job recalls from his earlier life? God's intimate friendship.
  - Verses 7-11, Job had respect from others.
  - Verses 12-17, Job ministered to others.
  - Verses 18-20, Job had confidence in the future.
  - Verses 21-25 Job had the privilege of speaking words of encouragement and help.
- 5) In chapter 30, Job has 5 complaints that parallel the joys he named in the last chapter:
  - I have no respect.
  - I have no blessing.
  - I have no help.
  - I have no future.
  - I have no ministry.
- 6) In chapter 31 Job examines his conduct in the following areas:
  - Job the man (1-12) Job mentions three specific sins that could trip up any man: lust, deceit and adultery.
  - Job the employer (13-15) Job was so careful in his self-examination in this chapter that he even included his treatment of his servants.
  - Job the neighbor (16-23, 29-32) Job was a good neighbor.
  - Job the worshiper (24-28) Job says he worshiped God with a sincere heart.
  - Job the steward (38-40) Job took care of the land God had given him.
- 7) In verses Job 31:35-37, what does Job demand? A hearing, an answer to his charges, and a document to prove his innocence.

### Parting thoughts:

- Reflecting on past blessings gives us reasons to rejoice.
- Rehearsing present trials forces us to swallow our pride.
- Reaffirming our commitment to integrity strengthens us with confidence and courage.