

Job



Forum Terrace Church of Christ

Sunday Adult Bible Class Spring Quarter 2026

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Prologue & Monologue

Job 1 - 3

“Why did all these bad things happen to me?” “What did I ever do to deserve this?” “Why God?” “Do you even care?” These questions are as fresh as they were when they came out of the mouth of a sufferer last night and as old as the story of Job. Human suffering and the reasons for it in a world created by a all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect and loving God have been and will continue to be a timeless subject of debate and personal meditation.

- **Characters**

This story of Job contains several well developed personalities. First, there is the main character, Job. Job was a real historical character. The prophet Ezekiel during the early days of Babylonian exile wrote, “...when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness...Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness,’ says the Lord God...’even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live,’ says the Lord God, ‘they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness” (Ezek. 14:14,20). Not only is Job not regarded as a mere mythical figure in the Old Testament, in the New Testament James wrote, “Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord” (James 5:14). Satan makes an appearance in the prologue of this story as the nemesis of God behind Job’s suffering. After chapter one, Satan is never mentioned again. God also appears in the beginning in the scenes associated with a heavenly council. In chapters 38 - 41 we have the longest running conversation by God in the Bible. Job’s wife makes a brief appearance after Job suffers Satan’s attack on his physical person. She does not have a part in this story past chapter two. Three friends of Job play a dominate role in the series of debates as they take turns inditing him of sin and encouraging him to repent. They are Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar in order of appearance. Late, in the book a younger man, Elihu, joins the discussion. In fact, he is the only character out of eight who is not mentioned in the prologue.

- **The Story**

Job was a good man in the sight of God. God allows Satan to take everything from this rich man even his ten children. Job responds by worshiping and blessing God. Satan is permitted to destroy his health with boils. Job’s wife tells him just to forget God and die. Job’s three friends come and sit with him for seven days in silence. Job breaks the silence with a monologue lamenting the fact he did not die at birth.

Next comes the debates with his three friends: Eliphaz; Bildad; and Zophar. Eliphaz begins and Job responds. Each of the three have three speeches and Job responds after each friend has his turn. The only exception is the Zophar forgoes his third speech.

Job spends time in a monologue declaring the greatness of wisdom, reflecting on former happiness and loss, and proclaiming his innocence.

A fourth friend, a younger man named, Elihu, gives four speeches. In these he condemns the three friends and suggests that Job needs to repent.

God finally speaks out concerning the situation. He does not explain the why of suffering. He only shows the ignorance of Job and His power in Creation and His justice. Job confesses.

Finally, Job is restored to his former greatness and then some.

- **Date & Setting**

A significant amount of evidence exists pointing toward the time of the Patriarchs for the setting of this story. Names of individuals and places used in Job are also found in Genesis: Eliphaz (Gen.

36:4); Tema (Gen. 25:15); Uz (Gen. 22:21); and Sheba and the Sabeans (Gen. 25:3). In fact, the previous two terms are the same word in Hebrew.

Another factor pointing toward an early date for Job is the name used for God in the book of Job. The name *Shaddai* or the Almighty God is found thirty-one times in Job. Compare that number with the seventeen other times it is found in the rest of the Old Testament. The term is used in Genesis during the time of the Patriarchs. In contrast the name Yahweh occurs only in the prologue and epilogue with 12:9 being the only exception. This would indicate that the prose part of the book identifies God with Jehovah and the poetry section calls him God Almighty.

When Job is attacked it is by the Chaldeans and Sabeans who are roving marauders instead of established nations. This description best fits an early date for the story.

When discussing the great wealth of Job, his great flocks and many servants are mentioned. This is how the patriarchs' wealth is identified. Later in history wealth was determined by the amount of precious metals one has accumulated.

Still another fact which points to the possibility of a very early date for the story of Job is that the name "Job" is found as early as 2000 BC. in ancient records.

Job is said to have offered sacrifices for his children on a regular basis (1:5). He did not use a priest or priesthood. Later he has his friends bring their sacrifices to him so he might cover them for their sins as he prays for them (42:8). Thus, Job acted as a patriarch and a priest like Melchizedek.

Another connection with the patriarchal period is Job's long life. When the story takes place his children are all grown with homes of their own. Job is at least sixty years of age. He lives another 140 years after the events of this story (42:16). Therefore Job lived to be at least two hundred years of age. Compare that to Abraham's father, Terah, who died at 205.

The musical instruments found in the story of Job are also mentioned in Genesis.

A particular unit of money called *kesitah* is mentioned in 42:11. The only other times it is mentioned in scripture this term is associated with the patriarch Jacob (Gen. 43:19; Josh 24:32).

Robert L. Alden wrote, "the use of Aramaic may actually point to the great age of the book rather than to its lateness...there are observations connecting the language of Job with Ugaritic, whose mid-second millennium B.C. date argues in favor of an early Job" (Alden 26,27).

A copy of Job was found among the Qumran scrolls near the Dead Sea. Among these scrolls "only the Pentateuch and Job are written in the so-called Paleo-Hebrew script, an archaizing invention probably intended to distinguish these as the oldest compositions" (Alden 32).

Under the Law of Moses daughters did not receive an inheritance. The inheritance went from the father only to the sons. Yet Job gave an inheritance to his daughters (42:15). This again corresponds with time of Jacob when his father-in-law, Laban, gave a portion of the inheritance to Rachel and Leah (Gen. 31:14). There is only one exception to this in the Law of Moses with the five daughters of Zelophehad (Num. 27:1f).

Not only is the patriarchal age a good choice because of positive comparisons, but negatively there are many things missing in Job which show no knowledge of the time of Moses and the Israelites. The book does not even hint at the Law of Moses, the covenant of God with the Patriarchs, the priesthood, or the sacrifices. The Israelites are not only absent from this story, but nothing of their history is found. Although the "*Jordan*" is identified as a border of a country (40:23) this book does not mention another land mark connected with Israel. The Promise Land, Jerusalem, the tabernacle or the Temple are not mentioned.

Based on the evidence found within the book, Job took place during the time of the patriarchal period between the time of Terah, Abraham's father and the time of Jacob, Abraham's grandson.

- **Authorship**

The date for Job's composition or recording is treated as a separate issue from the date in which the story takes place. When it was written down is in conjunction with who wrote it. The author is anonymous. Although there is a push by some scholars to include Job among the post-exilic writings of the Jews by Ezra or even closer to the Maccabean period, evidence exists to the contrary. Ezekiel made mention of Job during his exile in Babylon. Thus a post-exilic date is ruled out.

Due to the fact that Job is part of the wisdom literature. Some believe that Solomon wrote it.

Perhaps, he found a copy of it in its original Aramaic language and translated it by the Holy Spirit into Hebrew.

Moses spent forty years in the wilderness area of Midian near what is believed to be the location of the land of Uz. Some believed while he was in this area tending sheep, he came into contact with the story and recorded it by inspiration. His would make it older than the Pentateuch which he wrote in the forty year wilderness wanderings. Thus, Job is the oldest book in the Bible.

The length and the details found in the book of Job indicate to some that the original was written as a whole by someone who was at least a contemporary with an eyewitness, if not one of the participants in the story. Most likely, Elihu or even Job himself wrote it.

- **Canonicity**

Despite the mysteries surrounding the book of Job, its canonicity has never been questioned. Twice Paul quotes from Job as scripture (41:11 is quoted in Romans 11:35 and 5:13 is used in 1 Cor. 3:19).

- **Literary Style**

Although this book is one of the most ancient, it has been attested to be one of the best pieces of literature in history. Of the book of Job, Tennyson wrote that it is “the greatest poem of ancient or modern times.” The unique style of Job has made it hard for some to identify a specific genre for the book. It contains a large body of poetry sandwiched in by a prose prologue and a shorter epilogue in prose. The poetry section is dominated by synonymous parallelism. Although it does include antithetic parallelism climactic parallelism, and constructive parallelism also found in Hebrew poetry.

Not only does Job contain a well defined prologue and epilogue. The structure of the book is further divided up into monologue and dialogue in the main poetry section.

Job is an amazing piece of literature. It uses several literary devices throughout, such as, proverbs, metaphors, and even a riddle (41:1-5). “A closer look at the poetry yields rich and fascinating dividends because it is a treasure trove of word pictures, metaphors, similes, tightly reasoned logic, prayers, irony, insults, insinuations, protestations, exaggerations, fabrications, and interrogations” (Alden 35).

Chapter nine uses the vocabulary associated with a legal disputation, such as, “dispute” (9:23,14); “answer” (9:3,15); “argue” (9:14); “judge” (9:15); “innocent” (9:15,20,28); “summoned” (9:16,19); “hearing” (9:16); “justice” (9:19); “condemn” (9:20); “guilty” (9:20,29); “blameless” (9:21,22), and “arbitrate” (9:33) and perhaps other such terms can be found throughout the book (Lawson 7).

In fact, Job contains more unique Hebrew words than any other book in the Old Testament. Job contains over one hundred Hebrew terms not used by any other writer. “Five different words are used for lions (4:10-11), six for traps (18:8-10), and six for darkness (3:4-6; 10:21-22)...Its rich vocabulary reveals influences from several languages besides Hebrew, including Akkadian, Arabic, Aramaic, Sumerian, and Ugaritic” (Zuck 7,8).

Parallel literature dealing with the topic of suffering and deity are found in Mesopotamia. There is the Sumerian Job; “the Protests of the Eloquent Peasant” (2000 BC); the “Dialogue between a Man and His God” (1800-1600 BC); the “Poem of the Righteous Sufferer” (1600-1200 BC); “A Sufferer’s Salvation” (1550-1200 BC); and “The Babylonian Theodicy” (1100-100 BC). “While the literary genre and overall format of the Job literature comes from the world of which it was a part, there is really nothing extant that compares with the Biblical book in its philosophical and theological profundity” (Tenney 601).

Questions:

1. What proof is there that Job was a real historical person and not just a mythical figure?

2. What is the evidence that the story of Job took place during the patriarchal age?

3. Where is the book of Job quoted in the New Testament?
4. In your own words sum up in one sentence the theme of the book of Job.
5. Who do you think is the human author of Job? Explain why?
6. What kind of man is Job according to 1:1-5?
7. What can be learned about Satan from 1:5-12; 2:1-6?
8. Matching:

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ ten children of Job | a. fire of God from heaven |
| _____ oxen and asses | b. great wind |
| _____ sheep | c. Chaldeans |
| _____ camels | d. Job's home |
| _____ Uz | e. Sabeans |
9. How did Job respond to all this bad news?
10. What was Job's wife's advice? Was this typical of her character?
11. Who came to Job? Why did they come? What did they do?
12. In what ways did Job curse the day of his birth and the night of his conception?

13. What benefits would there have been for Job to have died at birth?

14. What has God done to a man like Job in 3:23? Explain.

15. What is Job's condition according to 3:24-26?

Application & Discussion:

1. How did Job deal with his tragedies in contrast to how most people today handle adversity in their lives.

2. How might Job's wife have aided her husband?

Homework: Find a suffering soul to just sit with and comfort this week.

Eliphaz/Job First Dialogue

Job 4 - 7

Questions:

1. What compliments does Eliphaz give Job concerning his former manner of life (4:1-5)?
2. What is Eliphaz's belief on suffering and guilt (4:6-11)?
3. What caused Eliphaz great fear in the night (4:12-16)?
4. How would you answer the two questions in verse 4:17?
5. What is Eliphaz describing in 4:19-21?
6. To whom does Eliphaz tell Job to turn to for answers (5:1)? Will he find any help?
7. What has Eliphaz observed concerning the troubles which overtake the foolish, that is, the wicked sinners (5:3-7)?
8. If Eliphaz were Job what would he do (5:8)?
9. Why did Eliphaz trust God (5:9-15)?
10. Who is a happy man according to Eliphaz (5:17)?

11. What are the end benefits of the discipline from the Lord (5:18-26)?

12. What reason(s) does Job give for uttering rash words (6:1-7)?

13. What is the one thing Job wants from God (6:8-10)?

14. What is happening to Job's strength and endurance (6:11-13)?

15. What should one expect from a friend (6:14)?

16. To what does Job compare his friends (6:15-20)?

17. What is the purpose of the questions Job asks his friends in 6:21-23?

18. What does Job request from his friends at this point (6:24-27)?

19. What does Job expect his friends to discover by their close and honest examination of his life (6:28-30)?

20. How does Job describe his current condition (7:1-7)?

21. What are Job's three observations about death (7:8-10)?

22. Job speaks of "*my...mouth, spirit, soul, complaint, body, life, days*" in 7:11-16. What is the common denominator in regard to all these aspects of Job's existence?

23. In your own words sum up the questions Job would like God to answer (7:17-21)?

Application & Discussion:

1. As a friend of someone suffering trials and tribulation in their life what sort of things ought you go do in contrast to what Job's three friends did for him?

2. God disciplines His children today (Heb. 5:5-12)? How should we react to this and what benefits result from the chastening of the Lord?

Homework: Find a friend in pain and ease their suffering before pointing out their problems.

Bildad/Job First Dialogue

Job 8 - 10

Questions:

1. How does Bildad describe Job's words (8:1)?
2. What is Bildad's basic view of God and Job's current suffering (8:2-4)?
3. What advice does Bildad give Job, so he may have hope (8:5-7)?
4. To whom does Bildad appeal for wisdom? Why? (8:8-10)?
5. Who is compared to the papyrus and the reeds (8:11-18)? Why?
6. Bildad tells Job there are certain things he can hope for as an innocent man before God. What are these (8:19-22)?
7. Why cannot Job bring his case before God (9:1-10)?
8. List the aspects of nature which God controls (9:5-9)?

9. Does Job claim to be righteous in this passage (9:15f)?
10. Why is Job unable to approach God with his complaints (9:14-21)?
11. Of what does Job accuse God in 9:22-24?
12. To what three things does Job compare the brevity of life (9:25-27)?
13. Why does Job believe just putting on a brave face will have no benefit before God (9:28-29)?
14. Why does Job believe becoming pure before God will be of no benefit (9:30,31)?
15. Why can Job and God not go to court together (9:32)?
16. Who or what does Job need to help him (9:33)?
17. What two things are necessary so that Job could approach God and not be terrified of Him (9:34,35)?
18. What two demands does Job make of God (10:2)?

19. Why should God know of Job's innocence (10:4-7)?

20. What metaphors does Job use to describe how God made him (10:8-12)?

21. Why does Job feel that whether or not he is righteous or wicked makes no difference to God (10:13-17)?

22. How does Job describe death or the after-life (10:20-22)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Who is our Mediator? Why is he your Mediator? What can he do for you? (1 Tim. 2:5,6; Heb. 4:15-16)

2. How do men accuse God of injustice today? Be ready to explain why these are not true.

Homework: Pray to God and enjoy the benefits have having a Mediator in these last days.

Zophar/Job First Dialogue

Job 11 - 14

Questions:

1. Why does Zophar feel the need to answer Job (11:2,3)?
2. Did Job say the things Zophar claims he did (11:4)? Explain.
3. Is it ever true that God exacts from us less than our iniquity deserves? Explain.
4. Why can a mere man not come to understand the will of God according to Zophar (11:7-11)?
5. According to Zophar what will happen before one can find out *"the deep things of God"* (11:12)?
6. What did Zophar advise Job to do (11:13-14)?
7. What would be the end result of following Zophar's advice (11:15-19)?
8. What if Job did not take Zophar's advice (11:20)?
9. Job's three friends are all encouraging him to repent. What are they assuming?

10. What is the meaning of the sarcasm Job is leveling at his friends (12:2)?
11. What does Job claim of himself (12:3; 13:1,2)?
12. Does Job believe the righteous always prosper and the wicked never do (12:4-6)? Explain.
13. To whom does Job appeal for the wisdom of life from the Creator (12:7-10)?
14. What is God able to do through His wisdom and strength (12:14-15)?
15. List the leaders whom God can humble (12:16-24)?
16. What can God do with nations (12:23)?
17. Of what does Job accuse his friends (13:3-12)?
18. What does Job demand of his three friends (13:13-19)?
19. What does Job ask God not to do to him (13:20f)?

20. Of what does Job accuse God (13:24-27)?
21. To what does Job compare the brevity of life (14:2)?
22. What does Job ask of God and why (14:3-6)?
23. What contrast(s) does Job make between the life of a man and the tree which is cut down (14:7-12)?
24. How do you think Job would answer his own question: "*If a man dies, shall live again?*" (14:14)? Explain.
25. What four metaphors does Job use to show how God destroys the hope of man (14:18-19)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Before advising a brother to come to repentance before God what sort of things might you first consider?
2. What are the pros and cons concerning the brevity of man's life?

Homework: Take this week's criticism from your critics to God in prayer.

Eliphaz/Job Second Dialogue

Job 15 - 17

Questions:

1. How does Eliphaz imply that Job was not acting like a wise man (15:2,3)?
2. According to Eliphaz what body parts of Job were involved in his flawed speeches?
3. What sarcastic remarks does Eliphaz make about Job (15:7-9)?
4. From whence comes Eliphaz's wisdom (15:10, 17-19)?
5. According to Eliphaz how had Job responded to their advice (15:11-13)?
6. Who doesn't God trust (15:14-16)?
7. How do the wicked react to God (15:25,26)?
8. According to Eliphaz's theology will the wicked be rich (15:27-29)?
9. What three metaphors does Eliphaz use to emphasize the life and end of the wicked (15:32,33)?
10. If the situation were reversed what would Job had done for his friends (16:5)?

11. What does Job accuse God of doing to him (16:7-14)?

12. How has Job responded to what he perceives God has done to him (16:15-17)?

13. Who is Job's witness and what is the evidence (16:19)?

14. Matching:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| ___ my blood | a. dwell on their provocation |
| ___ my cry | b. is on high |
| ___ my witness | c. pour out tears to God |
| ___ my evidence | d. are extinguished |
| ___ my friends | e. is broken |
| ___ my eyes | f. earth not cover |
| ___ my spirit | g. in heaven |
| ___ my days | h. no resting place |
| ___ my eye | i. scorn me |

15. How will God react or treat Job's friends (17:3-6)?

16. How do other men react or treat Job (17:6-8)?

17. How does Job react to this (17:9)?

18. What challenge does Job give his friends (17:10)?

19. What does Job think is in his near future (17:11-13)?

20. Where is Job's hope (17:14-16)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Is sarcasm appropriate for a Christian to use in defense of truth or to convict a sinner? Explain.

2. Where is your hope? When suffering what can you do to strengthen your hope?

Homework: Use comforting words this week to those in need.

Bildad & Zophar/Job Second Dialogue

Job 18 - 21

Questions:

1. What does Bildad tell Job to do before they speak again (18:2)?

2. How do the three feel they are being treated by Job (18:3)?

3. What synonymous terms are used for “*trap*” in 18:8-10?

4. Matching: course of the wicked (18:5-20)

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| ___ light | a. is starved |
| ___ lamp | b. frighten him on every side |
| ___ terrors | c. goes out |
| ___ strength | d. is put out |
| ___ king of terrors | e. death |
| ___ brimstone | f. astonished at his day |
| ___ roots | g. dried out below |
| ___ memory | h. scattered on his dwelling |
| ___ those in the west | i. are frightened |
| ___ those in the east | j. perishes from the earth |

5. What have these three friends done against Job (19:2-5)?

6. What does Job accuse God of doing to him (19:7-12)?

7. Matching: No one to show compassion

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ servant | a. abhor me |
| _____ wife | b. despise me |
| _____ young children | c. find me repulsive |
| _____ close friends | d. my breath is offensive |
| _____ brothers | e. give no answer to me |
| _____ relatives | f. count me as a stranger |
| _____ acquaintances | g. have forgotten me |
| _____ maidservants | h. have failed |
| _____ servant | i. removed far from me |
| _____ children | j. estranged from me |

8. Why should his friends have compassion on Job (19:20-22)?

9. What does Job want written (19:23,24)? Why?

10. In whom does Job place his hope (19:25)?

11. When does Job hope to see God (19:26,27)?

12. What warning does Job give his friends (19:29)?

13. Why does Zophar feel compelled to answer (20:2,3)?

14. Where does Zophar find knowledge for his argument (20:4)?
15. Matching: the wicked's short-lived success (20:5-11)?
- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ___ his triumphing | a. will seek the favor of the poor |
| ___ his joy | b. are full of youthful vigor |
| ___ he will perish | c. like a dream and be found |
| ___ he will fly away | d. is short |
| ___ he will be chased away | e. is but for a moment |
| ___ his children | f. like his own refuse |
| ___ his bones | g. like a vision of the night |
16. What metaphor does Zophar use to demonstrate the initial joy of wickedness in contrast to its bitter end (20:12-18)?
17. What will be the effects of the wicked's greed (20:20-23)?
18. What end-time events are alluded to in 20:26-29?
19. Why should Job's friend stop and listen to him (21:2-5)?
20. Contrasts the end of the wicked according to Zophar's second speech with Job's view of the success of the wicked in 21:7-16?

21. What contrast(s) is Job making concerning the death of the wicked (21:23-26)?

22. Is Job correct in assuming the speeches about the wicked by Job's friends are in part directed against him (21:27f)? Explain.

23. Explain Job's beliefs concerning the death and end of the wicked (21:30-34)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Who is your Redeemer? How will he enable you do see God?

2. When you see the wicked prosper in this life, does it bother you? Explain.

Homework: Remember and reflect upon the lives of godly men and women you have known whose lives were afflicted with pain and suffering and those whose righteous lives ended early.

Eliphaz/Job Third Dialogue

Job 22 - 24

Questions:

1. Of what does Eliphaz now accuse Job (22:2-9)? Are these accusations warranted by anything Job has said? Explain.
2. What punishment has come upon Job according to Eliphaz (22:10,11)?
3. According to Eliphaz of what does Job accuse God (22:12-14)?
4. If Job continues in his ways, what will become of him according to Eliphaz (22:15-17)?
5. What does Eliphaz call upon Job to do (22:21-23)?
6. What benefits does Eliphaz believe will come to Job if he complies with his advice (22:21-30)?
7. What would Job do if he could find God (23:2-4)?

8. If Job could find God, what confidences does Job express concerning God's judgment of him (23:5-7)?
9. Where does Job search for God (23:8-9)?
10. What three things has Job done faithfully which gives him confidence that he will come forth as gold when tested by God (23:10-12)?
11. Why is Job terrified of God's presence (23:13-17)?
12. What do the wicked do to the needy (24:2-4a)?
13. What suffering is brought upon the poor and needy by the actions of the wicked (24:4b-8)?
14. How do the rich take advantage of the helpless (24:9-11)?
15. How does God respond to the suffering of the poor and helpless according to Job's observations (24:12)?
16. What three groups of sinners does Job focus on in 24:13-17?

17. Explain Job's use of contrasting light and dark (24:13-17)?
18. What should befall these sinners (24:18-19)?
19. To what extent will the wicked be forgotten (24:20)?
20. What can God do with the wicked (24:21-24)?
21. What challenge does Job give his accusing friends (24:25)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Eliphaz mentions the benefits of repentance in his final speech to Job. According to the New Testament what are the benefits of repentance?
2. How does the New Testament Christian seek and find God?

Homework: Find an oppressed widow, impoverished soul or fatherless child this week and lighten their burden this week.

Bildad/Job Third Dialogue

Job 25 - 28

Questions:

1. What is unique about Bildad's third speech? How long is Zophar's third speech?
2. How great is God (25:2,3)?
3. Why can man not approach God according to Bildad?
4. What four things does Job imply Bildad has failed to do for him (26:2-4)?
5. What is Sheol? Can God know what is going on there? Explain. (26:6).
6. What scientific fact does Job observe about the earth in space (26:7)?
7. What scientific fact does Job observe about rain clouds (26:8)?
8. What or who keeps the sea within its boundaries (26:10-12)?

9. What can God do with the waters, the mountains, and the storm (26:10-12)?
10. What is the answer to Job's question in 26:14?
11. What vow does Job make (27:2-4)?
12. What will Job maintain as long as he lives (27:5,6)?
13. Can the wicked have hope (27:8)? Explain.
14. Does God hear the prayers of the wicked who refuse to repent (27:9,10)? Explain.
15. What will Job teach his friends? Will these lessons be new to them (27:11,12)? Explain.
16. What will be the end of the wicked's children (27:13,14)?
17. How will the wives respond to the death of the wicked (27:15)?
18. What will become of the wicked man's clothing and silver (27:16,17)?

19. What three metaphors does Job use to demonstrate the wicked man's quick demise (27:20,21)?
20. How will mankind in general respond to the wicked (27:23)?
21. What will man open the earth and move mountains etc. to discover (28:2-11)?
22. Where and with what can man not find true wisdom (28:12-19)?
23. Who can find wisdom (28:20-24)? Why?
24. What is wisdom (28:28)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Because of man's lowliness and sinfulness a deep and wide chasm separates him from God who is great and holy (Is. 59:1,2). What has God done to bridge this gap in His relationship with man? How is it now possible for man to approach God?
2. Did Job's three friends prove their point that God is punishing Job because he is wicked? Explain.

Homework: The world often labels New Testament Christians as self-righteous, ignorant, and intolerant. Continue to defend your Christlike virtues against these lies.

7. What three roles did Job play before the people (29:25)?

8. What is the character and condition of the young men who mocked Job (30:1-8)?

9. What do they do against Job (30:9-15)?

10. What is Job's condition according to 30:16-19?

11. Of what does Job accuse God (30:20-23)?

12. How has Job responded to those who have cried out for help? What response did he receive (30:25,26)?

13. How is Job a "*brother of jackals*" and "*companion of ostriches*" (30:30)?

14. What covenant has Job made with his eyes (31:1-4)?

15. If Job has been the least bit dishonest, how does he wish to be cursed (31:5-8)?
16. If Job has committed adultery what punishment does he call upon himself (31:9-12)? Why?

17. Why did Job not oppress the less fortunate (31:15)?
18. What groups of needy people has Job been benevolent toward (31:16-23)?
19. If Job has been engaged in any idolatry or trusting in wealth, what should be done to him and why (31:24-28)?
20. What has Job done for his servants, the sojourner, and the traveler (31:31,32)?
21. How is Job unlike Adam (31:33-34)?
22. What would Job do if God would acquit him of deserving what has happened to him (31:36-37)?
23. What should happen to Job if he has abused the land (31:38-40)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Was Job boasting of himself in chapter 29? What help might it be for a Christian to recall the good old days of the prime of his life?
2. What covenants, like Job, should a Christian make with his eyes, feet, hands, heart, etc?

Homework: This week do a self-examination of our life in the same areas as Job in chapter 31.

Elihu's First & Second Speech

Job 32 - 34

Questions:

1. What was mentioned three times as to Elihu's motivation to speak up at this time (32:1-5)?
2. Why was Elihu "angry" at Job? Why was he "angry" at the three friends of Job?
3. Why had Elihu waited till now to speak (32:4-6)?
4. What does Elihu say is generally true about aged men but not always the case (32:7-9)?
5. What three verbs does Elihu use to show how attentive he has been to the speeches of Job and the three friends (32:11-12)?
6. How will Elihu not answer Job and why (32:14)?
7. How strongly motivated is Elihu to speak (32:18-20)?
8. What two things will not be a component in Elihu's answer to Job and his three friends (32:21,22)?
9. What three requests does Elihu make of Job (33:1,5)?

10. What will make up the content of Elihu's speeches (33:2,3)?
11. What had Elihu heard Job say (33:8-11)? Did Job say these things?
12. Why did Elihu condemn Job for saying these things (33:12,13)?
13. In what three ways does Elihu say God will speak to men such as Job (33:15,19,23)?
14. What is God's end desire in sending a man a dream (33:16-18)?
15. To what extent will God chasten or discipline a man (33:19-22)?
16. According to Elihu what is the end result of listening to a messenger who comes with wisdom from God (33:23-28)?
17. What does God do twice and three times with a man (33:29,30)? Why?
18. What does Elihu hope to do for Job (33:32,33)?
19. What is Elihu searching for with the wise men (34:1-4)?

20. What does Elihu accuse Job of saying in 34:5,6,9? Did Job say these things?

21. What would God never do (34:10-15)?

22. Does God show partiality in His justice? Why or why not (34:17-20)?

23. Why is God alone able to dispense perfect justice (34:21-23)?

24. What does Elihu accuse Job of lacking when Job speaks (34:34)?

25. With what three accusations against Job does Elihu close his second speech (34:37)?

Application & Discussion:

1. How should younger Christians treat older Christians (1 Tim. 5:1f; 1 Peter. 5:6f)?

2. How does God communicate with us today (Heb. 1:1,2; 12:5-12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Tim. 4:1-5)?
How should we respond to such communication?

Homework: When someone is trying to give you wise advice this week, try to be a good listener.

Elihu's Third & Fourth Speeches

Job 35 - 37

Questions:

1. What three questions does Elihu attribute to Job (35:2,3)?
2. What benefits or disadvantages does one's righteousness or sins bring to God?
3. According to Elihu why does God not answer the cry of the oppressed (35:9-13)?
4. What does Elihu conclude concerning Job's speeches? Why did he come to such a conclusion (35:14-16)?
5. How does Elihu describe his final speech (36:1-4)?
6. What does God do for the wicked and for the righteous (36:6-7)?
7. What will become of those who obey God's commands (36:11)?
8. What will become of those who do not listen to God's warnings (36:12-14)?
9. If the wicked rejected God's help, what can help them (36:13-20)?

10. Who can instruct or correct God (26:22,23)? Has Job done this in any of his speeches?
11. What cannot be discovered about God (36:26)?
12. What is Elihu describing in 36:27-29?
13. What are the effects of lightning and thunder (36:32,33)?
14. How did Elihu react to the lightning and thunder (37:1)?
15. To what is thunder compared (37:2-5)?
16. What aspects of the weather are totally under God's control (37:5-12)?
17. What are the three reasons God causes the weather to come (37:13)?
18. What mysteries of nature does Elihu ask Job to explain (37:15-18)?
19. What challenge does Elihu put before Job (37:19-20)?
20. What will men see when the wind clears the clouds from the sky (37:21-22)?

21. Upon what two facts about God does Elihu bring his speeches to a conclusion (37:24)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Assess Elihu's contribution to the problem of Job's suffering and the answer as to why Job is suffering? Did he correct any false notions of Job's three friends? Did he correct any mistakes made by Job? Did he offer any comfort and direction?

2. In our opinion why did Job and his three friends not respond to the four speeches of Elihu?

Homework: This week take time out to ponder the weather and how it may reflect God's loving-kindness, beauty, creativity, omnipotence, omniscience, etc.

God's First Challenge to Job

Job 38 - 40:5

Questions:

1. For what was Job to prepare himself (38:3)?
2. Is God being sarcastic toward Job with His questions (38:4,5,21)? Explain.
3. Who was there when God made the earth?
4. What power does God demonstrate in His control of the sea (38:8-11)?
5. What is man not able to do according to 38:12-15?
6. What is *"the breadth (width) of the earth"*?
7. What is God sarcastically claiming about Job and his ability to know the mysteries about light and darkness in 38:21?
8. What four aspects of nature does God asked Job to explain in 38:11-14?
9. What aspects of weather can man not control (38:25-30)?

10. What is “*the cluster of the Pleiades*”, “*the belt of Orion*”, “*Mazzaroth*”, and “*the Great Bear*” (38:31,32)?

11. What other aspects of the weather can man not control (38:34-38)?

12. What could Job not do for young lions (38:39)?

13. Who provides food for the raven?

14. Do you know the gestation period for the wild mountain goats? If so, what is it?

15. How does the wild donkey react to domestication (39:5-8)?

16. How does the King James Version translate “*wild ox*” in 39:9? Would a single-horned Asian rhinoceros fit the context better?

17. Though an ostrich may not have “wisdom” with regard to where she keeps her eggs and how she cares for her young, what has God given the ostrich (39:13-18)?

18. What kind of horse is being described in 39:19-25?

19. What abilities do hawks and eagles have which show God's wisdom or the instinct He gave to these birds (39:26-30)?

20. Why would Job not answer God (40:3-5)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Does the fact that modern science has been able to find the answers to many of the questions God asked of Job diminish God's ability to challenge men who rebuke or correct Him today as Job had done? Explain.

2. Does this passage of creation and creatures leave room for Darwinian evolution or theistic evolution? Explain

Homework: Consider the instincts God has built into the various species of animals and how it allows them to survive in this world. Meditate on what this says about the nature of God and the wisdom of His creative powers.

God's Second Challenge & Epilogue

Job 40:6 - 42

Questions:

1. What four questions does God ask Job (40:8,9)?

2. What four things is Job to put on himself and wear (40:10)?

3. What will God do if Job judges and punishes the wicked (40:14)?

4. Matching: Behemoth

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>___ eats grass</p> <p>___ moves his tail</p> <p>___ sinews of his thighs</p> <p>___ his bones</p> <p>___ his ribs</p> <p>___ only his maker</p> <p>___ river may rage</p> <p>___ his nose</p> <p>___ his hips</p> | <p>a. can bring near him a sword</p> <p>b. bars of iron</p> <p>c. beams of bronze</p> <p>d. tightly knit</p> <p>e. like a cedar</p> <p>f. source of his strength</p> <p>g. no one pierces with a snare</p> <p>h. he is not disturbed by</p> <p>i. like an ox</p> |
|--|--|

5. Is behemoth a mythological creature (40:15,19)? Explain.

6. Given the details of behemoth is God describing to Job a hippopotamus? Explain.

7. Given the details of behemoth is God describing an elephant to Job? Explain.
8. Can Leviathan be domesticated (41:1-5)?
9. Can Leviathan be defeated with man's weapons (41:7-10a)?
10. What do these facts about Leviathan teach Job about man's relationship with God (41:20b,11)?
11. Matching: Leviathan
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| ___ scales | a. flame goes out |
| ___ sneezings | b. smoke goes out |
| ___ nostrils | c. shut up tightly as with a seal |
| ___ breath | d. like sharp potsherds |
| ___ mouth | e. flash forth light |
| ___ neck | f. hard as stone |
| ___ heart | g. kindles coals |
| ___ undersides | h. his strength dwells |
12. Why are mighty men afraid of him (41:25)?
13. What weapons are of no use on Leviathan (41:26-29)?
14. How unique is Leviathan in the animal kingdom (41:34)?

15. Does the description of Leviathan portray a Nile crocodile? Explain.
16. What has Job seen about God with his eyes (42:2-5)?
17. What is Job's response (42:6)?
18. What did God have Job's three friends do? Why (42:7-10)?
19. What did God give Job (42:10-13)?
20. Who returned to Job and what did they give him (42:11)?
21. Why do you think the names of the three daughters of Job are given (42:14,15)?
22. How much longer did Job live (42:16,17)?

Application & Discussion:

1. Is it possible that Behemoth and Leviathan could have been dinosaurs which Job could have seen? Explain.
2. Did God ever tell Job the role of Satan in his suffering? Do we need to know the reasons behind our suffering or temptations in order to serve God faithfully? Explain.

Homework: When suffering with sickness, trials, and loss remember to have the patience of Job.