

Job

Suffering - Punishment for the Wicked?

Job 15-21

Gathering: Do bad things happen to bad people and good things happen to good people?

Today's Focus: Job's friends try to help see that his troubles are the result of his wickedness.

Key Verses: *Why do the wicked live on, growing old and increasing in power?* Job 21:7

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in the flesh I will see God. Job 19:25-26

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Review of Studies 1 & 2

The Book of Job - Likely oldest book in existence, Story occurred around 1800 BC (time of Isaac)
First OT book of poetry - Hebrew poetry is based on parallelism

Job Loses His Belongings and Health - *Chapters 1 & 2*

What do we learn about Job?
What did Satan ask God to do in Chapter 1?
What did Satan ask God to do in Chapter 2?
How did God respond in both cases?
What did Satan take from Job?
How did Job respond to his losses?
Did Satan win these battles?

Summary of Story

Was Job suffering as the result of a serious sin or sins?
What had Job done to deserve his suffering?
Had God sent the suffering to test Job?
Did Job realize the reasons behind his suffering?
Was Job happy about what had happened?

Job Breaks the Silence - *Chapter 3*

What were Job's 3 wishes?
Why did Job long for these?

The Causes and The Solutions - *Chapters 4, 5, 8 & 11*

What did Job's friends understand to be the causes of Job's troubles?
Eliphaz (4:7-11)
Bildad (8:1-4)
Zophar (11:1-6)
Where did Job's friends claim to receive their profound insights?
Eliphaz (4:12-5:7)
Bildad (8:8-10)
Zophar (11:7-12)
What solutions did Job's friends offer?
Eliphaz (5:8-27)
Bildad (8:5-7)
Zophar (11:13-20)

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Review of Studies 1 & 2 (continued)

Job's Friend's Wisdom

In a nutshell, what did the friends understand to be the situation?
Were Job's friends correct?

Job's Response - *Chapters 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13 & 14*

Did Job agree or disagree with his friends' analysis?
Job 9:21

How did Job thank his friends for their support?
Job 6:14,21
Job 12:2
Job 12:7-8
Job 13:4-5

What did Job ask of God?
Job 7:20
Job 10:2
Job 13:20-22
Job 14:13

With Friends Like These - Eliphaz

How did Eliphaz address Job after the silence was broken?
Job 4:4-6

How did this change after Job rejected his friends' advice?
Job 15:1-6

How did Job respond to Eliphaz's accusations?
Job 16:1-5

How did Eliphaz change after Job rejected the second round of advice?
Job 22:5-10

How did Job reply to this last charge?
Job 29:11-13 (7-17)

How would you feel or respond if you were Job?
Job 17:4

Why did Eliphaz believe he was right and Job was wrong?
Job 15:9-10 (7-13)

What support did Eliphaz claim even greater than the wise elders?
Job 15:17-19

What reason does Eliphaz give that man can't be as pure as Job claims to be?
Job 15:14-16

How does this differ from Job's view of man's relation to God?
Job 10:12

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The Wicked Suffer (Eliphaz) - Chapter 15

According to Eliphaz, who receives the kind of suffering Job has seen?

Job 15:20

What kinds of torments do the wicked experience?

Job 15:21-24

Why should the wicked expect these things?

Job 15:25-26

How does Eliphaz explain prosperity we might see among the wicked?

Job 15:27-29

How does Eliphaz compare the wicked to a plant?

Job 15:30-33

What is the offspring of the wicked?

Job 15:34-35

Is Eliphaz correct in describing reality?

The Wicked Suffer (Bildad) - Chapter 18

What is the meaning of the wicked being in darkness?

Job 18:5-6

What kinds of traps await the wicked?

Job 18:7-8 (7-10)

What kind of life does Bildad say the wicked can expect?

Job 18:12 (11-14)

What kind of legacy does the wicked leave?

Job 18:17 (15-20)

Is Bildad correct in describing reality?

The Wicked Suffer (Zophar) - Chapter 20

What does Zophar say about the joy and pride of the wicked?

Job 20:5-7 (4-11)

How does evil taste to the wicked?

Job 20:12-14 (12-16)

Does the wicked get to taste his successes?

Job 20:18 (17-19)

What happens when the wicked has eaten his fill?

Job 20:22-23 (20-28)

How does Zophar say this is assured?

Job 20:29

Is Zophar correct in describing reality?

Discerning The Wicked and The Righteous (Job) - Chapters 16 & 17

How do the wicked respond to Job's troubles?

Job 16:10-11

How do the righteous respond to Job's troubles?

Job 17:8 (6-9)

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The Wicked Prosper (Job) - Chapter 21

- Does Job agree that the life of the wicked is full of troubles?
Job 21:7 (1-7)
- What proof does Job offer that the wicked also prosper?
Job 21:8-13 (8-16)
- What proof does Job offer that the wicked is not punished in life?
Job 21:17,29-31 (17-21, 27-33)
- Can we expect equal treatment through life?
Job 21:22-26
- What reward can the faithful expect?
Job 19:25-26 (23-27)

Job Responds to His "Friends' Wisdom" - Chapters 16, 17 & 19

- How does Job feel about his friends' advice and how he should respond?
Job 16:2-3, 6 (1-6)
- How has Job responded to what has happened to him?
Job 16:7, 15-17 (7-17)
- What friend does Job look to for help?
Job 16:19-21 (18-21)
- How helpful are the friends that Job has on earth?
Job 17:1-2, 10, 12 (16:22-17:16)

- How does Job respond to his friends after Bildad speaks the second time?
Job 19:2-4 (1-6)
- What concerns Job more than the attacks of his friends?
Job 19:7-8 (7-12)
- Why does he believe his friends are against him?
Job 19:13, 19 (13-20)
- What does Job ask of his friends?
Job 19:21-22
- Since they don't support him, how does Job conclude his comments about his friends' miserable comfort?
Job 19:28-29

- How does Bildad respond to Job's comments?
Job 18:2-3 (1-4)
- Why does Zophar respond even knowing that Job will reject what he says?
Job 20:2-3

Closing Prayer

Next Week - *Suffering – Beyond Man's Understanding?* (Job 22-31)