

# Job

## Suffering - Beyond Man's Understanding?

Job 22-31

Gathering: How comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel when you don't understand things in your life?

Today's Focus: Job's discussion with his three friends concludes that they are unable to understand God's wisdom.

Key Verses: *These are but the outer fringe of His works; how faint the whisper we hear of Him! Who then can understand the thunder of His power?* Job 26:14

*The fear of the Lord – that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.* Job 28:28

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Review of Studies 1 - 3

Summary of Story - *Chapters 1 & 2*

First OT book of poetry - Hebrew poetry is based on parallelism

What happened to Job?

How did Job respond to his losses?

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 did Job's friends say to him the first 7 days?

What did Job long for when he finally spoke?

The Causes and The Solutions - *Chapters 4 - 14*

How did Job's friends explain the cause & solution to Job's troubles?

Were Job's friends correct?

Did Job agree with his friends' analysis?

Did Job thank his friends for their support?

What did Job ask of God?

With Friends Like These - Eliphaz

How did Eliphaz address Job differently over 3 rounds of discussions?

Job 4, 15, 22

How did Job respond to Eliphaz's accusations?

Job 16:1-5

What proof did Job offer that he would comfort them if they were in his condition?

Job 29:11-12 (7-17)

What reason was given that man can't be as pure as Job said he was?

Job 15:14-19

Per Job's friends, who receives the kind of suffering Job has seen?

Job 15:20 (20-35)

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Review of Last Week (*continued*)

The Wicked Suffer - *Chapters 18 & 20*

What kinds of traps await the wicked?

Job 18:7-8 (5-21)

How do they explain that even the wicked experience joy and pride?

Job 20:4-7 (4-11)

How does evil taste to the wicked?

Job 20:12-14 (12-19)

What happens when the wicked has eaten his fill?

Job 20:23 (20-28)

Were the friends correct in describing reality?

The Wicked Prosper (Job) - *Chapter 21* (see also Psalm 73)

Does Job agree that the life of the wicked is full of troubles?

Job 21:7-9 (7-13)

Does Job agree that the wicked is eventually punished in life?

Job 21:17, 29-30 (17-34)

Why should the faithful then continue to be faithful?

Job 19:25-26

Eliphaz's Last Gasp - *Chapter 22*

What does Eliphaz say to try to get Job to shut up about being blameless?

Job 22:1-3

If Job's righteousness won't get God's attention, what will?

Job 22:4-5 (4-11)

How is Job warned that God sees and knows that he is evil?

Job 22:13-16 (12-20)

So, what should Job do?

Job 22:21-23 (21-30)

Job Looks to God - *Chapter 23*

What does Job think about Eliphaz's guidance to turn to God?

Job 23:3-5 (1-7)

Although Job doesn't know where to find God, what does he know about God's location?

Job 23:10-11 (8-12)

How does Job feel knowing that God is watching him?

Job 23:15 (13-17)

What does Job ask for to be able to face God?

Job 9:33 (32-35)

Does Job have an arbitrator?

Job 16:19-21

Do we have an intercessor?

Hebrews 7:24-25

How does the Spirit intercede for us?

Romans 8:26

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### Job Responds to Eliphaz - *Chapter 24*

How does Job respond to Eliphaz's insight that God punishes the wicked?

Job 24:1, 12 (1-12)

How do the wicked try to keep their evil hidden?

Job 24:16 (13-17)

Although the wicked are not necessarily punished in this life, what is in store for them?

Job 24:22-24 (18-25)

### Bildad's Last Gasp and Job's Reply - *Chapters 25 & 26*

Not really having anything new to say, what does Bildad say now that it is his turn?

Job 25

In what temperament (mood) does Job reply to his friends' last comments?

Job 26:1-4

How does Job respond to Bildad's explanation of the greatness of God?

Job 26:7-8, 14

Note: After this, Zophar doesn't even try to say anything at his third turn

### Job Shuts Up His Friends For Good - *Chapter 27*

Have the friends had any effectiveness on showing Job his sin?

Job 27:5-6 (1-6)

What would Job like to see in revenge for the false accusations?

Job 27:7 (7-10)

How would Job like to see his enemies treated?

Job 27:13-20 (13-23)

### Beyond Man's Understanding - *Chapter 28*

What hidden things are men skilled at finding?

Job 28:1-3 (1-11)

What is man unable to find?

Job 28:12-13 (12-14)

How valuable is wisdom?

Job 28:15 (15-19)

Who knows where to find wisdom?

Job 28:20, 23 (20-27)

How can man find wisdom?

Job 28:28

### The Good Old Days - *Chapter 29*

For what did Job long?

Job 29:4-5 (1-6)

Job 29:7-8 (7-11)

Job 29:15-16 (12-17)

Job 29:18 (18-20)

Job 29:21-23 (21-25)

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### From Awed to Mocked - *Chapter 30*

How was Job now being treated?

Job 30:1 (1-8)

How were these sons of worthless men mocking him?

Job 30:10 (9-14)

How secure does Job feel in his present situation?

Job 30:15 (15-19)

Did Job not feel protected and supported by God?

Job 30:20 (20-23)

How does Job summarize his state?

Job 30:24 (24-31)

### Sins I Could Have Committed - *Chapter 31*

How did Job keep himself righteous?

Job 31:1 (1-4)

What examples does Job give of sins where he would deserve punishment?

Job 31:5, 8 (5-8)

Job 31:9-10 (9-12)

Job 31:13-14 (13-15)

Job 31:21-22 (16-23)

Job 31:24, 28 (24-28)

Job 31:29 (29-30)

Job 31:31 (31-32)

Job 31:33 (33-37)

Job 31:38, 40 (38-40)

How did Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar respond to what Job said?

Job 32:1

Closing Prayer

Next Week - *Suffering – Guidance From Sin?* (Job 32-37)