

# Job

## God is in Control

Job 38-42

Gathering: How have you been able to find peace in stressful situations by turning control over to God?

Today's Focus: God questions Job so that Job realizes that he cannot comprehend God's perfect ways and that he was wrong in being upset that God didn't do things Job's ways. God blesses Job again.

Key Verses: The Lord said, *"Everything under heaven belongs to Me"*. Job 41:11

*I know that You can do all things; no plan of Yours can be thwarted..* Job 42:2

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Review of Studies 1 - 5

Job - A Righteous Man Suffers (*Chapters 1 & 2*)

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

What happened to Job? = Richly blessed, lost everything, covered with painful boils

What had Job done to deserve his suffering? = Nothing

Did Job realize the reasons behind his suffering? = No

How did Job respond to his losses? = mourned losses, but blessed God

Suffering - Persuasion to Repent? (*Chapters 3 - 14*)

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

= Job had sinned greatly & needed to repent, God would respond & restore him

Were Job's friends correct? = No, Job had done nothing to bring this on

Did Job agree with his friends' analysis? = Disagreed - "I am blameless"

What did Job ask of God? = What charges? Stop scaring me and speak with me

Suffering - Punishment for the Wicked? (*Chapters 15 - 21*)

Per Job's friends, who suffers as Job has? = Wicked is tormented entire life.

Did Job agree? = No. The wicked grow old, gain power, prosper & are happy

What reward can the faithful expect? = After death I will see God.

Suffering - Beyond Man's Understanding? (*Chapters 22-31*)

Where did Job turn after giving up on his friends? = To God.

What did Job want to help him face God? = arbitrator, intercessor from on high

How can man find wisdom? = Fear of the Lord is wisdom, to shun evil is understanding

Suffering - Guidance From Sin? (*Chapters 32-37*)

Why did Elihu wait until now to speak? = Others were older. Angry they gave up

Why did he feel he had wisdom to share despite his youth? = He had God's spirit inside him

Per Elihu, how does God speak to man? = Many ways - Dream or vision, sends sickness or pain

Per Elihu, why does God speak to man? = To turn from sin & pride, protect from death & hell

How can man be saved from hell? = An angel mediates & provides a ransom (Christ)

What is impacted by our sin or righteousness? = Man (sins hurt, good helps others), none to God

How do wicked & righteous differ in response to suffering? = Righteous turn to God, wicked don't

How does God respond to man's response? = Wicked killed, righteous restored

Should Job understand God and His ways? = God is great & beyond understanding

How does God use storms? = Lightning to punish, rain to show his love

# Job

## God is in Control

Page 2

Finally, God Revealed! (*Job 38:1*)

How did God finally reveal himself?

Job 38:1 = Out of a storm

What method was Job afraid that God would use to reveal himself?

Job 9:16-17 = He would crush me with a storm

Why might Job have been especially afraid of this?

Job 1:18-19 = A storm had killed his children

How did the first storm differ from the last storm?

Job 1:12 = The first storm was from Satan

Why might God have used this method to reveal himself? = Storm not necessarily good or bad on its own

Romans 8:28 = "In all things God works for the good of those who love him"

God's Complaint (*Job 38:2-3*)

What complaint did God have against Job?

Job 38:2 = He spoke out of ignorance, lacked knowledge of God

How did God preface his revelation?

Job 38:3 = *I will question you, and you shall answer me*

How does this approach compare with Job's request for God to speak?

Job 13:22 = *Summon me and I will answer, or let me speak, and you reply*

With God's introduction, how is Job expecting God to proceed?

Job 13:23 = *How many wrongs & sins have I committed? Show me my offense & my sin*

God Responds (*Job 38 & 39*)

What questions does God ask Job to answer?

Job 38:4 (4-7) = Where were you when I formed the earth? - Creation Day 2

Job 38:8 (8-11) = Who set the coasts for the seas? - Creation Day 3

Job 38:12 (12-15) = Have you ever ordered the morning daylight? - Creation Day 4

Job 38:18 (16-18) = Do you comprehend the vast regions of the earth?

Job 38:19 (19-21) = Do you know where light lives and where darkness lives?

Job 38:22, 24, 25, 29 (22-30) = Where does snow, hail, lightning, wind, rain, ice come from?

Job 38:32 (31-33) = Do you control the constellations and the sky?

Job 38:36-37 (34-38) = Who gives wisdom & understanding, who sends rain & lightning?

Job 38:41 (39-40) = Who provides food for the animals? - Creation Days 5 & 6

Job 39:1 (1-4) = Do you watch the animals give birth?

Job 39:5 (5-8) = Who gave the wild donkey his freedom?

Job 39:9 (9-12) = Can you control a wild ox?

Job 39:17-18 (13-18) = God gave the stork powerful flight, but no wisdom

Job 39:19 (19-25) = Do you give strength to the horse?

Job 39:27 (26-30) = Do the hawk & eagle soar by your command?

# Job

## God is in Control

Page 3

### The Reasons Why (*Job 40:1-5*)

How was Job expecting God to question him?

Job 6:24 = Show me where I have been wrong.

What did God actually ask of Job?

Job 40:1-2 = If you accuse God, can you correct God?

How did Job respond?

Job 40:3-5 = I am unworthy to reply to God, I've already spoken too much

Is God skirting the issue, or getting to the main point? = Main point

What is God trying to teach Job about God's nature and man's nature?

Who is prosecutor and who is defender in Chapters 3-37? = P - God, D - Job

Who is prosecutor and who is defender in Chapters 38-42? = P - Job, D - God

Does God reveal the specific reasons why Job suffered? = No, not important

Has Job ever asked for answers to the "whys" behind his losses? = No

What has been Job's concern throughout the book? = How have I been unrighteous?

What kinds of questions do you ask God when you have troubles?

What might God be trying to reveal to you?

### God's Justice (*Job 40:6-14*)

How did Job feel he had been treated by God, the judge?

Job 7:21 = Why don't you pardon my offenses & forgive my sins?

How did Job feel about the quality of God's justice?

Job 9:22-24 = He destroys both the blameless & the wicked. He blindfolds judges.

Did God recognize what Job had been saying?

Job 40:8 (6-8) = Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?

How does God respond to Job's charges?

Job 40:10-12 (9-14) = Then set yourself up as God and judge the proud & wicked.

### The Behemoth and the Leviathan (*Job 40:15-41:34*)

What is man's relation to the Behemoth? = huge beast of the land

Job 40:15 = "which I made along with you" -- probably hippopotamus, maybe elephant

What is the point God is making with the strength of the Behemoth?

Job 40:24 (15-24) = Man is powerless in relation, God is much more powerful

What other creature is used to show man's lack of control over creation? = huge beast of the sea

Job 41:1, 8-9 (1-11) = There is no way that man can approach the Leviathan

What kind of creature is the Leviathan?

Job 41:15, 19, 24, 31 (12-32) = Scaled back, fire breath, hard chest, stirs the sea - dragon

What creature is God actually referring to?

Revelation 12:3, 9 = "that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan"

How does God confirm this reference in Job?

Job 41:33-34 = Nothing on earth is equal, king over the proud - Luther's A Mighty Fortress

Who does have power over the Leviathan?

Job 41:11 = God. "Everything under heaven belongs to me."

# Job

## God is in Control

Page 4

### Job's Response (*Job 42:1-6*)

Did Job understand what God was saying?

Job 42:1-2 = You can do all things, your plans cannot be thwarted

How did Job respond? = You're in perfect control of all, I shouldn't have questioned you

Job 42:3-6 = I spoke out of ignorance, I repent in dust & ashes

### Job's Friends (*Job 42:7-9*)

Did God agree with the advice that Job's friends had given?

Job 42:7 = I am angry with you since you spoke wrongly about me & Job

What did God require of the friends and how did they respond? = *my servant Job* – 4 times in 7-8

Job 42:8-9 = Sacrifice 7 bulls & 7 rams, Job will pray for you, God accepted

### God's Blessings (*Job 42:10-17*)

What happened before God restored blessings to Job? What did this show?

Job 42:10 = After Job had prayed for his friends - Job's righteousness

How did God bless Job?

Job 42:12-13 (11-15) = Twice as much belongings, same number of children

How else did God bless Job?

Job 42:16-17 = A full life, 140 years, Saw offspring to 4th generation

### Closing Prayer

### Course Summary

Week 1	Job - A Righteous Man Suffers	Job 1-2
Week 2	Suffering - Persuasion to Repent?	Job 3-14
Week 3	Suffering - Punishment for the Wicked?	Job 15-21
Week 4	Suffering - Beyond Man's Understanding?	Job 22-31
Week 5	Suffering - Guidance From Sin?	Job 32-37
Week 6	God is in Control	Job 38-42