

Learning and Living the Bible Together

Job 38-42

What is Job's situation as we end chapter 37?

He has unrelieved misery, open sores all over his body, and is bearing the grief of seven dead sons and three dead daughters. His wealth is gone. His relationship with his wife is not good. He is now loathsome to family and friends while having three "close" friends railing against him. He is even despised or mocked by little children. All the while, he is complaining to God but being faithful. He feels ignored by God and wants to make his case.

A. God's Response (ch. 38-41)

—> ***Now God is ready to respond to Job's issues.***

1. God responds to us on His timing, in His way, and according to what we need.

2. God wants us to see Him as GOD. We do not need to question His work.

* We must guard against claiming our rights and questioning God's work. We can fail in this way by:

- questioning His actions

Example: *How could God do that? How could God let people die? How could God allow that catastrophe?*

- questioning His motives

Example: *It seems God wants to hurt people and that is not right.*

- questioning His care

Example: *It does not seem that God really cares for me and this would not have happened. Or we can say this should have happened if God cared for me.*

- questioning His nature and character

Example: *God would not do that! We can fail to see His love, justice, power, sovereignty, grace, etc. all work together. We tend to define God on our terms; i.e., "God wouldn't really judge me for that small sin."*

* God wants us to see Him as Great and One that can always be trusted.

- He is Creator of all in the universe.

- His work is immeasurable, precise, beyond comprehension, creative, and with purpose. (38:4-11, 28-35, 39-41)

- He is in control of all in the universe, down to the smallest detail. (39:1-40)
- He knows all that is occurring. (38:16-18; 39:1-2)
- He has plans and is ready to execute them on His timing. (38:23-24)
- He gives us the ability to think and reason. (38:36)
- He is the perfect judge and controls the affairs of men. (40:8-14)
- He owes no one and owns everything. (41:11)
- He knows exactly what He is doing and there are no events that occur that surprise Him.

—> He is **Sovereign** over all. He does whatever He wants but is perfect.

—> His work and His ways are **far beyond** any human understanding. He gives and takes away but always knows what is best.

B. Our Response to God when in trials (40:3-5; 42:1-6; 42:7-8)

1. Bow before Him in humility and realize we are insignificant compared to Him. Our focus must not be upon us but upon His plans and purposes.
2. Be In awe of Him. Worship Him.
3. Be submissive to His ways and will. Listen to Him.
4. Examine yourself and repent.
5. Accurately represent Him to others. Share about Him from Scripture and not your opinion.

C. Our Recognition of Who God is must be in our mind each day

1. He is **Judge and our Authority**. We are accountable to Him. (Heb. 12:5-7)

> He is judge in chapter 42 with the three friends.

2. He is **Righteous** and demands payment for sin. (Heb. 9:22)

> He demanded sacrifice for their sin in chapter 42. God hates sin and we must remember it.

3. He is our Redeemer. (Job 19:25; John 14:6)

> Job was the only person God said was worthy to offer sacrifices (ch. 42). This is a type of Christ. We see Jesus all through this book. God is reminding us of our Redeemer.

4. He Gives and Takes as He pleases. He is Sovereign. (Ps. 135:6)

5. He is Powerful. (Ps. 62:11; 1 Cha. 29:11; Matt. 19:26)

6. He is Trustworthy. (Prov. 3:5; Ps. 37:5,7)

> He knows what is best. His ways are perfect.

—> **We are to trust God knowing that He is worthy of our trust in every situation. His ways are always right. Each of us should commit our life to Him., no matter the circumstance. He is worthy of our surrender.**

- release all tendencies toward bitterness

- obey Him even when you do not know outcome

- get to know Him more so you can trust Him more

—> **We are to see God in all of His greatness He reveals in Scripture and rest in Him.**