

“THROUGH THE BIBLE”

Union Chapel M. B. Church

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March 20, 2024

JOB

**“FOR I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH, AND THAT HE SHALL STAND AT THE LATTER DAY
UPON THE EARTH” (Job 19:25)**

(Old Testament Wisdom-Job 28:28)

***** (OVERVIEW PART 2) *****

OUTLINE III: AUDIENCE WITH THE OMNIPOTENT GOD (Job 38-42)

Introduction Notes:

See *JOB Overview Part 1 INTRODUCTION*, dated March 13, 2024. (Church Website).

The Class instructions were to read the Scriptures of Outline II, (Job 4-31). The question that Job’s friends wanted answered: *Why is Job suffering? Why Job? Why now? Why has this evil come upon Job? Why has Job gotten caught in a “storm of life?” Why is Job experiencing unexplained affliction? Is this how you treat your friends?*

NOTE: *As Job’s friends reflect on his suffering, they soon began to argue (human understanding, is “dark” and “doubtful”) that he had committed “sin” (Also N.T., John 9). They even reasoned, since no one else was around that could bring about such calamities’, GOD did it! They blamed God. Each of Job’s friends have their own view of God’s “mysterious ways” (purpose, counsel, providence, commands, sovereignty). He becomes intensely frustrated with them. However, it was unknown to Job, his wife, and friends, the “tormentor” was God’s messenger, Satan (Accuser/Adversary-Job 2:6). The SECRET PURPOSE of Job’s suffering, the back and forth from heaven to earth, were all unknown to him.*

When we deal with the question of “why?”, God’s wisdom must be obtained to answer the question. HIS wisdom (Holy Spirit) always speaks to the “heart!” The focus must be on God’s character, reputation, and HIS love.

God is all-powerful, and we must learn to take comfort in HIS sovereignty, surrendering to HIM complete control of our lives. Through the trials/testing’s we encounter, God refines our faith like gold, it is tested! (1 Peter 1:3-7). The trials prove faith, obedience, and commitment to the Lord. It may take a while to see this, but God is at work.

III. Audience with the Omnipotent God (Job 38-42)

- a. We are all subject to *“divine cross-examination”* (Job 38:2-3)
“WHO IS THIS...?” The Sovereign, Supreme God responds. (God knows that Job’s faithfulness was not connected to his blessings).
- b. We as believers cannot make certain assumptions about God’s justice, suffering, pain, evil, death, our sin, loss of support, etc., (John 9; Deut. 29:29; 2 Cor. 12:7; Heb. 12:6).
- c. Behind the Scenes: Job had some *“bad days.”* There is a *“wider cosmic battle, a tension between two realms”* (Job 1-2; Eph. 5:8-16; John 10:10). Remember, the *“Adversary”* is in the realm of the Spirit (Eph. 6:10-12). He is already defeated!
- d. The *“Whirlwind”*-God hears and reveals HIMSELF: Job repents, as he learns and is assured, that God is his *“Friend”* and had not abandoned him (Job 38).
God reduces Job to *“zero”*, brings him out of his bitterness, but did not crush him- he is humbled (Job 40:3-5). Job’s prayer is answered, and he says to God with joy, *“...now I see YOU (“Your Glory”) with my whole heart”* (Job 42:4-6). *God also corrects his friends regarding their “speeches/opinions” about HIS reputation, faithfulness, and ways.*

THE VERDICT: Job is restored (double-Job 42:7-10), not because of his righteousness, but because of God’s love for him. He stayed true to God. Job did not take the advice of his selfish, desperate wife, or his ignorant friends. All of his relatives were considered *“fair-weather”* friends, but their *“gifts”* to him were very expensive. He suffered the *“loss of all things for God’s sake and for no other reason.”* In this way, he resembles the *“Suffering Servant”* of Isaiah 53.

NOTES: I’ll give you one: *After Job prayed (Job 42:10), it appears that this deed proved he was spiritually ready for restoration. Also, could it be his normal life span was double (Job: 42:16; Ps.90:10), because of the restoration?*

“ONLY GOD IS WORTH SERVING”