

# Job

## *How Do We Know What We Think We Know?*

### Sunday School Lesson #15

- I. EPILOGUE (JOB CHAPTER FORTY-TWO)
  - A. God NEVER explains to Job why he was afflicted
    - 1. Job is never told why he suffered
    - 2. Job is told to have faith in God
  - B. Job acknowledges the sovereignty of God
    - 1. God is sovereign
      - a) He CAN do all things
      - b) NO purpose of God can be perverted by
        - 1) Satan
        - 2) Man
        - 3) “Chance”
    - 2. Job admits he spoke of matters
      - a) From a basis of complete ignorance though he feigned omniscience
      - b) That were far beyond his comprehension or understanding
    - 3. Job’s statement of faith
      - a) Before he had only heard things about God
      - b) Now he has a personal relationship with God (Matthew 6:22-23)
      - c) Job repents because he now sees himself as a sinner and God as holy — NOW one can say that
        - 1) Job is saved
        - 2) God *is* correct in saying that Job *is* blameless and upright
  - C. Only Job repents
    - 1. There is no indication that Eliphaz, Bildad or Zophar repented
      - a) God holds them accountable for not repenting as Job has done
      - b) Gives the impression that the conversation between God and Job was not private but heard by everyone present
    - 2. There is no need for Elihu to offer up a sacrifice since he faithfully, accurately testified to Job about God
  - D. Job then acts as intercessor for the three men

1. Job receives the animals from each man
  2. Offers sacrifices and prayers of forgiveness for each man
  3. This is the FIRST time it is mentioned that God accepted Job's sacrifices
    - a) This is no indication if these three men were not saved, or saved
    - b) They were to offer a sacrifice for their sin but there is no indication that they asked for salvation
    - c) The sacrifice is possibly an illustration of their need for salvation and of the blood required to obtain this precious gift
- E. God blesses Job giving him twice as much as previous
1. Once Job had been faithful to obey God and act as a witness for his three friends, God reverses Job's fortunes
  2. Family and friends visit him
    - a) They comfort him, he comforts (witnesses) them through his testimony (Psalm 107:1-1-2, 10-16, 43)
    - b) They each give Job funds so he can reestablish himself
      - 1) This is not welfare but short-term charity
      - 2) This is consistent even with what Paul taught (1 Timothy 5:8)
  3. The Bible always has a special emphasis for women
    - a) Job's sons are never named
    - b) Job's three daughters are named and given special honor
      - 1) Names indicate Job's joy of salvation and relationship with God and his latter children
        - (a) Jemimah — Daylight
        - (b) Keziah — Sweet smelling
        - (c) Keren-Happuch — Eye makeup (God has changed my countenance)
      - 2) Job provided an inheritance for each daughter, unheard of in the Asian cultures
        - (a) This made them equal with their brothers
        - (b) Gave them respect and independence unheard of even in Christ's day (Luke 15:8-9)
- F. Job lives 140 years before dying
1. Man still lived long years post Flood though this is decreasing rapidly
  2. Man would not live long after birth unless God had declared that man should live approximately 70 years (Psalm 90:9-10)

3. Job saw four generations of his family before dying
  - a) Job's previous children were so busy pleasuring themselves there is no mention of them ever having children
  - b) There is the very real probability that they were having sexual relationships at these daily parties
    - 1) Possibly the reason Job was offering daily sacrifices
    - 2) Job possibly used sacrifices as a substitute for witnessing to them about their sin and lack of relationship with God
    - 3) Possibly why God allowed Satan to remove them as they were a hindrance to Job's salvation; i.e., he cared more for his children, who cared little for him and God, than he did for God

## II. THE HAGIAZO PROCESS IS DESIGNED TO TEACH US THE LESSONS OF JOB

- A. A more intimate relationship based on a correct view of God and ourselves
- B. Dependence on God's strength, not reliance on our *supposed* strengths
- C. Submission to God as to how He decides what to do in our lives
  1. No expectations about the removal of the trials and testings — Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was not removed
  2. Resting in His will waiting for the day of our complete redemption (1 John 3:2; Matthew 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10)

## III. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHO IS AT WORK IN YOUR LIFE?

- A. We cannot know (certain, absolute knowledge) whether any specific event is tied directly to God or Satan unless
  1. There is correspondence to precise biblical prophecy which is a very low probability and such assurance will only be given when the time for fulfillment is at hand
  2. Angel(s) clearly announce when God is behind a particular event (Revelation 14:6-11)
- B. The only sure standard for spiritual truth is the Bible using the normative hermeneutical methodology as demonstrated by
  1. Christ (Matthew 5:17-48)
  2. Paul (Romans 9:6-33; 10:11-21; 11:7-10, 25-27, 33-36)
  3. Peter (1 Peter 1:14-20, 22-25; 2:4-8; 3:8-12; 4:17-19)
- C. We are to discern our own motives and behaviors according to the Bible (Matthew 7:1-5; Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-4; 2 Peter 1:5-9)
  1. Guided by

- a) The Hagiazos Process
  - b) The Testimony of faithful witnesses
  - c) The intervention of God (Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ)
2. Helped by others, spiritual elders, who reflect back to us how we act in relation to what the Bible says how we are to act in various situations (Romans 2:1-4)
- D. Discern the words and the actions of others after God works on us in particular areas
- E. This demands diligent study of God's word — CONSTANTLY (Hebrews 5:11-6:1)
- F. The Bible is the *only* certain, absolute truth we have access to under the tutelage of God's Holy Spirit to keep us from perverting God's word to our own ends which many have done and will continue to do (1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Matthew 7:21-23)