

The Book of Job
Class Notes
Session 24

Job 42.10-11 In the epilogue in Job, God restores to Job all that he has lost. Job has suffered greatly, and yet, he did not “curse God and die.”

The themes of reconciliation and restoration end the book of Job. However, some struggle with this ending.

We know that life does not always end “happily ever after” ...at least not this side of heaven! However...

This chapter assures us that, no matter what happens to us, *God always writes the last chapter*.

Therefore, we don't have to be afraid. We can trust God to do what is right, no matter how painful our situation might be. But Job's greatest blessing was not the regaining of his health and wealth or the rebuilding of his family and circle of friends.

“(Job's)...greatest blessing was *knowing God better and understanding His working in a deeper way*...No matter what God permits to come into our lives, He always has His “afterward.” He writes the last chapter—and that makes it worth it all.”¹

Additionally...Job's restoration is an act of grace...Not a reward for proper theology and faithfulness. Job's prayers were not for himself...Job prayed for his friends...Here his renewed prosperity happens!

(v.11): Job's family now come to offer what the friends should have... “Sympathy” and “Comfort” because of the “Evil” that he experienced... רַע (rā) ... “Bad.” It is the opposite of “Shalom.”

Job 42.12-17 In these final verses we see a theme of “Reversal” ... Comparing this description with *Job* 1.3...Job receives double.

(v.14): Job's daughters names are given...the names of the sons are not.

(v.15): Job's daughters received an inheritance...as did the brothers.

While Job hoped to die...He lived to an old age!

Job lived the “length of life of the Patriarchs”...Abraham...*Genesis* 25.8...Isaac...*Genesis* 35.29...David...*1Chronicles* 23.1.

Rather...Job...as well as other Scriptures...reveal that the principle is not “invariable and airtight. God in His sovereignty can give—or hold back—blessings in accord with His purposes.” (R.L. Alden. *Job*)

“This book, probably the oldest in the Bible, deals with mankind's most pressing problems: the question of suffering and man's relationship with God. Job's experience billboards the truth that man's worship of God does not stem from a businesslike contract, whereby he earns material rewards from God....not a juridical arrangement in which He is obligated to reward man for every good act. Instead, man is to trust God, worship Him regardless of his circumstances, and rely on the perfections of His character even when God's ways are not fully understood. Misfortune does not mean God has forsaken His own. It does mean He has plans that the sufferer may know nothing of.”²

¹ W.W. Wiersbe. *Be Patient. The Book of Job*.

² J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck Eds. *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*.

The Ending of Job... The Restoration of his life. God restored the relationship and *then* blessed him!

Prosperity...Before and after...is not a reward Job deserves or that God is obliged to give...It is all gift!

Job is fully reconciled to God. Job serves God from a pure heart...Solely because he loves YHWH...Job serves “God for nothing!” (The) Satan was wrong!

The sovereignty of God and the evil of Satan.

The evil and losses that Job experienced...in the Hebrew text...reflects a form of captivity and chaos.

The restoration of Job’s property/family/life is the driving back of evil...Recovering what was “Captured.”

Summary of Job...

The “Dilemma” ... Job is a sinner... (Evil)... *Or* ...God is unjust...Neither was the conclusion!

Faith brought Job through...Learning Obedience... *Hebrews 11.1*...and...Patience... *James 5.10, 11*

The book of Job is not primarily about suffering or even Job...Job does not offer explanations of why the righteous suffer...It offers *right-thinking* about God....God’s character...Sovereignty...and Justice.

Job is not about putting ourselves in his place or model our responses on him...It is about *learning about* God and *sticking with* God.

God’s blessings/gifts are not mechanical obligations... Rather, they are God’s pleasure!

The proverbial truth that God blesses the faithful is true...God delights in showing favor to those who are faithful...God will continue to act as before...Still...God is not bound by the “Retribution Principle.”

The “Walk of Faith” challenge...Job persevered...experiencing... “Waiting” ... and...“Warfare”

There is such a reality as “Innocent Suffering.”

The story of Job is a “Type” and “Foreshadows” Jesus Christ...

- Jesus was an innocent sufferer but still obeyed.
- Jesus went through deep darkness and in the end was vindicated.
- Jesus is a true Priest.
- Jesus engaged the monstrous forces... “Behemoth” ... “Leviathan” ... Yet Jesus overpowered and defeated the enemies (Sin-Death-Devil)

Job 42 anticipates the return of Jesus who will make all things new!!