

**Adult School of Ministry**  
**Summer 2025**

**Lesson 7 – July 13, 2025**

**Job Repents; God Restores**  
**Restoration begins with repentance.**

**Scriptures:** (1) Job 42:1–6; (2) Job 42:7–9; (3) Job 42:10–17

**The Lesson Overview:** The Book of Job concludes in chapter 42 with Job confessing his ignorance for insisting that God needed to allow him to prove his innocence. Through his persistent pleas for his day in court, Job suggested that God did not know he was innocent and was mistakenly punishing him. There are two errors in Job’s many laments and demands: First, he was saying God was ignorant of his righteous life; second, he was implying God makes mistakes, both of which are patently false statements. In this lesson, Job admits to his errors and repents. Also, his friends are confronted by God for their false accusations of Job, and finally, God fully restores Job.

**Historical Background:** The Book of Job opens by introducing Job as “*perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil*” (1:1). He is further described as a man of wealth and status with an exemplary family. When Satan appeared along with the angelic host before God, God commended Job’s devotion to Him. Satan challenged God, saying if God allowed it, he could get Job to curse God (1:9-11). God permitted it, and the contest began. Job cursed the day he was born and demanded his day in court with God, but he never cursed God (1:22; 2:10). The Book of Job ends with God’s confidence in Job confirmed and Job being fully restored and doubly rewarded.

**Lesson Outline**

1. JOB SEES GOD AND REPENTS - Job 42:1–6
  - A. Job Confesses His Folly (1-4)
  - B. Now Job Sees and Repents (5-6)
2. GOD REBUKES JOB’S FRIENDS - Job 42:7–9
  - A. God Rebukes Job’s Friends (7)
  - B. Job’s Friends Repent (8-9)
3. GOD HONORS JOB’S INTEGRITY - Job 42:10–17
  - A. God Restores Job’s Wealth (10-12)
  - B. Job’s Long and Blessed Life (13-17)

## Discussing The Lesson

### 1. JOB SEES GOD AND REPENTS (Job 42:1–6)

#### A. Job Confesses His Folly - Job 42:1-4

- 1) Throughout chapters 38 through 41, God taught Job about His awesome power and sovereignty.
- 2) Job first responded to God in 40:3-5 but only to confess that he was “*vile*” (meaning small or insignificant) and said he would no longer question God or try to answer the questions God posed to him.
- 3) Then, throughout chapters 40 and 41, God continued to reveal more of Himself to Job.
- 4) God described His knowledge, power, and control of nature itself, as revealed even in the instinctual behaviors of animals.
- 5) Job had been a devoted and devout worshiper of God, and he knew the commands of God, which he followed (23:12).
- 6) But God’s self-revelations, given through a series of questions, drew Job into a deeper understanding of himself and of God.
- 7) In his second response to God (42:1-6), Job removed his hands from his mouth (40:4) to declare God can do everything (He is omnipotent) and God knows everything (He is omniscient).
- 8) Job already knew this, but this truth’s power impacted him like a shockwave of reality, drawing him closer to God.
- 9) After seeing God with greater clarity, Job also saw himself more clearly as well.
- 10) He confessed, “*I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not*” (v. 3).
- 11) Job’s encounter with God had changed him.
- 12) He had consistently demanded an audience with God to offer his complaints, but now he requested an audience to offer an explanation for his change of heart (v. 4).

#### B. Now Job Sees and Repents - Job 42:5-6

- 1) When Job accepted God’s challenge to speak, he admitted God could do all things and knew all things, but he confessed that his knowledge of God only scratched the surface.
- 2) Through his suffering, followed by God’s profound revelation of Himself, Job admitted although he had heard of God, knew things about God, and worshiped Him, it was only after encountering God that he understood Him more fully (v. 5).
- 3) With this encounter, Job quickly repented for his arrogant demands of God.
- 4) Indeed, now that God had shown up as Job had demanded, Job said he abhorred himself (v. 6).
- 5) There are other examples of people who recognized God’s great glory and immediately confessed their unworthiness.
- 6) For example, when Isaiah saw God “*high and lifted up*” in the temple, he cried out, “*Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips*” (Isaiah 6:1, 5).
- 7) Likewise, when Peter recognized the divinity of Jesus after the miraculous catch of fish, he “*fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord*” (Luke 5:8).
- 8) Job said, “*I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes*” (42:6).
- 9) The Hebrew word translated as *abhor* means “to despise,” but also means “to melt away” or “disappear.”

- 10) When we go through trials in life, we tend to focus on ourselves, but after Job saw God, everything changed.
- 11) Self-centered obsession shrinks as God becomes greater in our lives.
- 12) The eminence of God rises above all the problems and evils of the world, reminding us He has a plan, and His plan will end in good for those who love Him (see Romans 8:28).
- 13) When Job said he was repenting “*in dust and ashes*” (v. 6), he may have literally been in the dust and ashes, but it may also have indicated profound humility and sorrow for his words and actions.
- 14) True humility opens the door for God to lift us from ruin and exalt us (see Matthew 23:12).

## 2. GOD REBUKES JOB’S FRIENDS (Job 42:7–9)

### A. God Rebukes Job’s Friends - Job 42:7

- 1) God never said of Job’s friends that they were perfect or that they despised evil, but He did say this of Job (1:8).
- 2) Therefore, his friends’ unfounded accusations directly contradicted God’s assessment of Job.
- 3) They had no proof of any wrongdoing by Job but made assumptions based on their misguided view of God, which was wrong.
- 4) God spoke to them, saying to Eliphaz, “*My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath*” (v. 7).
- 5) God said Job spoke correctly about his innocence; therefore, Job was right, and his friends were wrong.
- 6) Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar teach us we must exercise great care when we offer Biblical counsel to our suffering friends, lest we misrepresent God.
- 7) We must seek to be diligent students of Holy Scripture by “*accurately handling the word of truth*” (2 Timothy 2:15 NASB).
- 8) Otherwise, we will bring shame upon ourselves and hurt others.
- 9) It is not enough to believe in the Bible; we must practice a right reading of it.
- 10) We should always approach the study of Scripture with humility and careful attention.

### B. Job’s Friends Repent - Job 42:8–9

- 1) Job was not punished for any sin in his life, but because of their accusations against Job, his three friends were in danger of experiencing the wrath of God.
- 2) However, God mercifully made a provision for them to avoid His wrath.
- 3) He said they were to humbly go to Job with sacrifices of seven bullocks and seven rams and ask him to pray for them.
- 4) God said, “*My servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept*” (v. 8).
- 5) God would accept the prayer of Job on their behalf, with the implication being that He would not accept their prayers without their sacrifices and Job’s intercession.
- 6) Referring specifically to Job’s claims of integrity, for the second time God stated that what Job had spoken was “*right*” (v. 8).
- 7) God called their speeches “*folly*,” from a Hebrew word meaning “foolish, senseless, disgraceful,” or even “wicked.”
- 8) God did not address Elihu or reprimand him, leading some to believe Elihu’s words were correct.
- 9) However, Elihu’s assessment of Job did not differ significantly from that of the other three, so perhaps God dismissed Elihu because he was not one of Job’s friends.

- 10) Either way, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar took God's warning very seriously.
- 11) Having seen what Job went through as an innocent man, they certainly did not want to incur divine wrath.
- 12) Therefore, they responded as the Lord directed, and God accepted Job's prayer on their behalf.

### 3. GOD HONORS JOB'S INTEGRITY (Job 42:10–17)

#### A. God Restores Job's Wealth - Job 42:10-12

- 1) Verses 10 through 17 form three sections:
  - a. First, the restoration of Job's wealth (vv. 10-12);
  - b. Second, the restoration of Job's family (13-15);
  - c. Third, the last half of Job's life and his death.
- 2) Job not only needed physical healing and financial and family restoration but also to repair his relationships with his friends.
- 3) Their accusations deeply cut Job, and their interaction became contentious, but God arranged for Job's restoration and the forgiveness of his friends to come through prayer and reconciliation.
- 4) Verse 10 notes, *"And the Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before."*
- 5) When Job prayed for his friends, healing was released in his life.
- 6) However, given that he had ten more children, the restoration did not happen overnight but occurred over several years.
- 7) In 19:13, Job said, *"He [God] hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me,"* but in 42:11,
- 8) Job's brothers and sisters came to him bearing gifts.
- 9) They came to share a meal at his home and to comfort him following the terrible ordeal he had endured.
- 10) Verse 11 suggests the reason for Job's suffering was not revealed—at least not at that time.
- 11) His family assumed the "evil" (adversity or affliction) was from the Lord. Though God allowed it, Satan had inflicted the suffering.
- 12) However, Job learned to surrender to God's sovereignty even in adversity.
- 13) In addition to restored relationships, Job's wealth, in the form of herds and flocks, was double what it was before his ordeal.

#### B. Job's Long and Blessed Life - Job 42:13-17

- 1) Verse 13 reveals Job was blessed with more children—seven sons and three daughters.
- 2) Interestingly, only the daughters' names are given (v. 14), and they are described as beautiful and given an inheritance along with their brothers (v. 15).
- 3) Normally, only sons would receive an inheritance because daughters would benefit from the inheritance of their husbands.
- 4) Any parent who has lost a child will attest that the birth of additional children cannot erase the pain of losing a child.
- 5) However, it is still considered a blessing that Job would have additional children to whom he could pass on his restored wealth and name.
- 6) Job would live an additional 140 years, and his wealth was sufficient to pass on to his children before his death.

- 7) According to Psalm 90:10, a man's normal lifespan is 70 years, so the additional 140 years are another doubling of God's blessings.
- 8) The text from the Hebrew Scriptures does not indicate how old Job was when his ordeal began, but the ancient Greek version of the Old Testament (known as the *Septuagint*) indicates that Job was around 78 when the tragedies began and that he lived to the age of 248.
- 9) He lived an additional four generations (v. 16), which was long enough to see his children, grandchildren, and even great-great-grandchildren born.
- 10) When verse 17 states, "*So Job died, being old and full of days,*" it is not a tragedy but the expected end of a long and blessed life.
- 11) The total duration of Job's suffering is never given.
- 12) It may have been months or years, and though intense and severe, it was a parenthesis in an otherwise blessed and noble life.

### **Call To Discipleship**

Disciples of Jesus will endure trials and afflictions, but God will deliver us from them all (Psalm 34:19). Through faith in God's sovereign will, we can emerge with a victorious testimony.

### **Ministry In Action**

Be prepared to pray with people experiencing suffering and encourage them to forgive anyone who may have wronged them. Forgiveness can heal.

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## Lesson 7

### JOB REPENTED. WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

**Repentance is a major theme of Scripture.** Words for *repentance* (repent, repented, repentance) are mentioned 112 times in the Bible. The Bible clearly teaches that repentance is necessary to receive God's forgiveness of sins.

**In the Old Testament,** the Hebrew word (*nacham*) translated *repent* means, in its simplest form, "to be sorry" for something. By usage, it implies sorrow that causes a change in one's thinking and actions.

**In the New Testament,** the Greek word (*metanoeo*) translated *repent* means, in its simplest form, "to think differently." By usage, it implies thinking differently that causes one to forsake sinning, to love God and live righteously. *"Godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation"* (2 Corinthians 7:10 NKJV).

**Job repented (Job 42:6),** after the Lord had spoken to him at length with many questions and statements to which Job had no answers (chapters 38 to 41; and see 40:1-5).

**What are we to think about the fact that,** *"Job was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil"* (1:1 NKJV), yet he repented. This tells that all people, and even the best people, at times need to repent. As Christians, we should live with a penitent attitude, being always ready and willing to repent when we become aware of sin we have committed.

**The first mention of repentance in the Bible is this:** *"And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart"* (Genesis 6:6). After this, 17 more times in the Old Testament, mention is made of God repenting (Genesis 6:7; Exodus 32:14; Judges 2:18; 1 Samuel 15:11, 35; 2 Samuel 24:16; 1 Chronicles 21:15; Joel 2:14; Amos 7:3, 6; Jonah 3:9-10; 4:2 KJV). God has no need to repent of sins, therefore in the NKJV, all mentions of God repenting have been changed to *"was sorry," "relented," "moved to pity"* or *"regret."* God can change His thoughts and intentions toward people when they change their ways.

## **DIVINE TURNAROUND**

1. In 42:3, what did Job confess to the Lord, and what can we learn from this confession?
2. As 21st-century Christians, how can we “hear” from God and “see” Him (vv. 4-5)?
3. What did the Lord tell Job’s three friends to do, and how did they respond (vv. 8-9)?
4. What did Job do for his three friends, and what happened afterward (v. 10)?
5. Summarize the story of Job in one sentence.