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A Practical Study of JOB: Persevere and Press On

"Understanding Sovereignty and Suffering"

PART I - Job 1-14

STUDY NUMBER ONE - JOB 1:1-2:10

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read <u>Job 1:1-2:10</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. How is Job described for us in chapter 1:1-3?

3. Describe what Satan says about the Lord's relationship to Job, according to verse 10.

4. What restraint does the Lord put upon Satan, according to verse 12?

- 2
- 5. Outline the series of tragedies that hit Job in verses 13-19.
- 6. How did Job respond to this series of tragedies, according to verses 20-22?
- 7. What restraint did the Lord put on Satan, according to chapter 2:6?
- 8. How does Job's wife respond to all the tragedies in Job's life, according to verse 9?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

- LESSON #1: Job was a man who in character was blameless and upright. In commitment he feared God and in conduct he shunned evil.
- LESSON #2: Job was a good parent in caring for the spiritual needs of his family.
- LESSON #3: Satan is limited by God's sovereign restraint.
- LESSON #4: When the Lord talks about you, what do you think He is saying?
- LESSON #5: The Lord does put a hedge about His children and blesses the work of their hands.
- LESSON #6: The loss of his possessions and progeny all took place in one day.

LESSON #7: When the storm had passed, Job tore his robe, shaved his head, and worshiped the Lord.

LESSON #8: Suffering reveals the motivation of our sacrifices and service.

LESSON #9: Maintaining our integrity in the midst of the suffering delights the heart of God.

LESSON #10: The hardest trial for Job was probably the response of his wife.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWO - JOB 2:11-3:26

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 2:11-3:26</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why were Job's three friends going to see him, according to chapter 2:11?

3. How did the three friends respond when they saw Job for the first time, according to verses 12 & 13?

4. What was Job's initial response, according to chapter 3:3, 4?

- 4
- 5. What is Job's question, according to verse 11?
- 6. What happens at death for the wicked and the weary, according to verse 17?
- 7. How does Job evaluate the situation, according to verse 25?
- 8. What is Job's condition, according to verse 26?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

- LESSON #1: When you really hurt, the focus turns to friends.
- LESSON #2: How many friends do you have who would drop everything and come in a moment if you had a need?
- LESSON #3: Suffering presence is the powerful ministry of silent compassion.
- LESSON #4: Grief is sometimes verbalized in wishes, in whys, and in whats.
- LESSON #5: "Mayday" is the call of distress for ships at sea, planes in the air, and Job on the land.

LESSON #6: Job does not curse God but the day of his birth.

LESSON #7: Job's depravation, disease, and despair lead to depression.

- LESSON #8: Job feels his way is hidden because he sees no purpose, no plan, and experiences no presence in his suffering.
- LESSON #9: He has hedged me around that I cannot get out and made my chain heavy.
- LESSON #10: Job's groans pour out like water.
- LESSON #11: What he feared has come, and what he dreaded has happened to him.

LESSON #12: He has no peace, no quietness, no rest; but only turmoil.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THREE - JOB 4:1-5:27

NOTES

- 1. Read <u>Job 4:1-5:27</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What question does Eliphaz ask of Job in <u>chapter 4:2</u>?
- 3. How has Job responded to his difficulties, according to Eliphaz in verse 5?

- 6
- 4. What should be Job's confidence and hope, according to verse 6?
- 5. What is the observation of Eliphaz, according to verse 8?
- 6. What kills a fool and slays the simple, according to chapter 5:2?
- 7. How does Eliphaz feel about man in general, according to verse 7?
- 8. What does Eliphaz feel that Job should do, according to verses 8 & 9?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

- LESSON #1: One of the best things we can do for a person experiencing deep grief is to be silent.
- LESSON #2: It certainly does not help someone who is suffering to tell them to practice what they preach.
- LESSON #3: To be discouraged and dismayed in a time of trouble is not what the Lord would want from us.

LESSON #4: The two things you need the most in suffering is confidence and hope.

LESSON #5: Assumptions as to the cause of someone else's suffering can be devastating.

- LESSON #6: Be very careful how you respond to someone who says, "I have a word for you from the Lord."
- LESSON #7: It is really not very helpful to tell someone what you would do in their situation.
- LESSON #8: God does discipline and deliver His children in adversity.
- LESSON #9: If there is unjudged sin in our lives, the safest thing to do is to cooperate with God's discipline.
- LESSON #10: We must be very sensitive to satanic counterfeits when it comes to visions, dreams, and direct mandates.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOUR - JOB 6:1-7:21

NOTES

- 1. Read <u>Job 6:1-7:21</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What does Job wish for in chapter 6:2?
- 3. How does Job describe his suffering, according to verse 4?

- 8
- 4. What is Job's request, according to verses 8 & 9?
- 5. What should a despairing man have, according to verse 14?
- 6. How does Job feel about his three friends, according to verse 21?
- 7. How does Job feel about life, according to chapter 7:6?
- 8. How does he feel about his life, according to verse 16?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

- LESSON #1: Job in this passage is distressed, disappointed, despairing, and despising.
- LESSON #2: Job would very much like to die, to bring an end to his present misery.
- LESSON #3: Strength for the day and prospects for tomorrow are the keys to longevity in life.
- LESSON #4: Job's suffering is intensified by the lack of love and loyalty on the part of his friends.

LESSON #5: Job's friends are like dried up streams instead of refreshing encouragement.

- LESSON #6: How painful are honest words.
- LESSON #7: God's sovereignty is seen in the allotment of months and the assignment of misery.
- LESSON #8: Job feels like his life is passing swiftly away.
- LESSON #9: Job has anguish of spirit and bitterness of soul.
- LESSON #10: Job is so depressed that he despises his life, and he would not live forever if he could.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FIVE - JOB 8:1-22

<u>Notes</u>

- 1. Read Job 8:1-22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What three questions does Bildad have for Job in verses 2 & 3?
- 3. What advice does Bildad have for Job in verses 5 & 6?

- 4. What does Bildad tell Job to do, and why, according to verses 8 & 9?
- 5. What is the destiny of all those who forget God, according to verses 11-13?
- 6. How does Bildad characterize the hope of the godless ,according to verses 14 & 15?
- 7. What does God not do, according to verse 20?
- 8. What will God still do for Job, according to verse 21?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

- LESSON #1: Bildad the Brutal really bombs and blasts Job in this speech.
- LESSON #2: Bildad is suffering from a hardening of the categories.
- LESSON #3: It is always wrong to club and clobber someone with the Scriptures when they are suffering.

LESSON #4: Bildad does not have all the facts, so he has no right to an opinion.

- LESSON #5: Bildad tells Job that his children died because of sin.
- LESSON #6: Bildad wants Job to repent before it is too late so God will be roused, restore, and not reject him.
- LESSON #7: Bildad uses the past to explain the present.
- LESSON #8: It is the height of arrogance to think that one knows what God is doing in the life of another.
- LESSON #9: Bildad has failed to see Job as a hurting, lonely man who needs some affirmation and encouragement.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SIX - JOB 9:1-10:22

NOTES

- 1. Read Job 9:1-10:22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What is Job's question, according to <u>chapter 9:2</u>?
- 3. What does God do, according to verse 10?

- 4. How does Job describe life, according to verse 25?
- 5. What is Job going to say to God, according to chapter 10:2?
- 6. What question is Job going to ask of God, according to verse 8?
- 7. What has God done for Job in the past, according to verse 12?
- 8. What does Job want God to do, according to verse 20?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven" (<u>Matthew 5:20</u>).

- LESSON #2: It is only the righteousness of Jesus Christ that makes us acceptable in the presence of a holy God.
- LESSON #3: God's wisdom is profound, and His power is vast.

- LESSON #4: When you are fighting against God, you are going to experience consequences from that conflict.
- LESSON #5: He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be numbered.
- LESSON #6: Suffering makes us vulnerable to misunderstanding God's purpose and plan for our lives.
- LESSON #7: There is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.
- LESSON #8: Job is in deep despair and is speaking out in the bitterness of his soul.
- LESSON #9: Job does not have all the facts, so he has misinterpreted God's purpose and plan in all of this.
- LESSON #10: Death can be a moment of great victory and triumph for the believer.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SEVEN - JOB 11:1-20

<u>Notes</u>

- 1. Read Job 11:1-20 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What four questions does Zophar ask in verses 2 & 3?

3. What does Zophar wish that God would do, according to verse 5?

4. What two questions does Zophar ask of Job, according to verse 7?

5. What three suggestions does Zophar give to Job to solve his problems, according to verses 13 & 14?

6. What will happen if Job does these three things, according to verses 15 & 16?

7. What does Job have to look forward to, according to verse 17?

8. Contrast the life of the righteous to the wicked, according to verses 18-20.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Questions, confrontations, and accusations should never be part of the comforting process.

LESSON #2: Zophar, in his anger, has forgotten that Job is a very hurting, lonely man.

- LESSON #3: Zophar assumes that if God would speak, He would speak against Job—but it will be against Zophar later in the passage.
- LESSON #4: God's wisdom has two sides: that which He sees from above, and that which we see from below; that which is revealed, and that which is unrevealed.
- LESSON #5: Zophar says that Job has sinned even beyond the extent of his punishment.
- LESSON #6: God's wisdom and ways of doing things are far beyond us.
- LESSON #7: Zophar accuses Job of being deceitful and doing evil.
- LESSON #8: Job suffers verbal abuse from Zophar by some of the things that he says.
- LESSON #9: The three R's of Zophar's solution are: 1) repent; 2) renounce; and 3) the rewards are yours.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHT - JOB 12:1-14:22

NOTES

- 1. Read Job 12:1-14:22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What is in the hand of God, according to chapter 12:10?

- 3. What can be found among older people, according to verse 12?
- 4. What two things belong to God, according to verse 16?
- 5. How does Job feel about his friends, according to chapter 13:4?
- 6. Describe Job's commitment to the Lord, according to verse 15.
- 7. How is man described by Job, according to chapter 14:1?
- 8. How does Job feel about man's life in relationship to the sovereignty of God, according to verse 5?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Job is weary of hearing words that do not apply to his situation.

LESSON #2: Job senses that he has become a laughingstock to his friends.

LESSON #3: God has your life in His hand, and He is giving you your next breath.

LESSON #4: God has wisdom, power, counsel, understanding, strength, and victory.

- LESSON #5: God is the One who makes nations great, and He is the One who destroys them.
- LESSON #6: Sometimes saying nothing in the face of grief is the greatest wisdom.
- LESSON #7: It is sheer folly to speak for God to a suffering saint.
- LESSON #8: Job is open and transparent before the Lord, giving Him an invitation to show him his sin.
- LESSON #9: Man's days are determined, and God has set limits that cannot be exceeded.
- LESSON #10: Job's view of life is distorted because of his deep depression.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:



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A Practical Study of JOB: Persevere and Press On

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PART II - Job 15-24

STUDY NUMBER NINE - JOB 15:1-35

NOTES

- 1. Read Job 15:1-35 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What does Eliphaz accuse Job of doing in verse 4?
- 3. How does Eliphaz describe man in verse 16?
- 4. What does Eliphaz desire to do, according to verses 17 & 18?

- 5. How does Eliphaz describe the wicked man in verses 20-26?
- 6. What is going to ultimately happen to this wicked man, according to verses 27-29?
- 7. Describe this wicked man's future, according to verses 30-32.
- 8. How does Eliphaz conclude his message in <u>verse 35</u>?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: How quickly we can turn from comfort to confrontation when we are dealing with a grieving individual.
- LESSON #2: We must learn that it is possible to miss completely the whole purpose when we are trying to explain suffering in the life of another.
- LESSON #3: How dangerous it is to make accusations in the face of grief.
- LESSON #4: When it comes to suffering and sorrow, the safe place to be is to admit our ignorance as to God's purpose and plan.
- LESSON #5: Venting one's anger is a healthy part of the grieving process.

LESSON #6: Eliphaz is on target when he speaks of the total depravity of man in verse 14.

- LESSON #7: Eliphaz is arguing from the position of experience rather than from truth.
- LESSON #8: The eighteen difficulties that are outlined in the concluding part of the speech of Eliphaz are the fruit of wickedness.
- LESSON #9: "Be not deceived, God is not laughed at. Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

LESSON #10: "When sin is conceived, it gives birth to death" and not to life.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TEN - JOB 16:1-17:16

<u>Notes</u>

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 16:1-17:16</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How does Job characterize his friends, according to chapter 16:2, 3?

3. What would Job do for them if he were in their place, according to chapter 16:5?

4. What does Job say of God in <u>chapter 16:7</u>?

5. How does Job describe himself, according to <u>chapter 16:17</u>?

6. How does Job describe the rest of his life, according to chapter 16:22?

7. What three things does Job say about himself in chapter 17:1?

8. What two things will the righteous do in the midst of their suffering, according to <u>chapter 17:9</u>?

- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: Job's friends had become confronters rather than comforters.
- LESSON #2: They were indulging in long-winded speeches instead of silence and sensitivity.
- LESSON #3: Job says, "If I were in your place, I would encourage and comfort you to bring relief."
- LESSON #4: Job accuses God of assailing him and tearing him in anger.
- LESSON #5: Job is suffering from physical and verbal abuse from folks who are around him.

LESSON #6: Job says that God shattered, seized, crushed, and hung him up as His target.

- LESSON #7: Job speaks of God in an intimate way as "my witness, my advocate, my intercessor and my friend."
- LESSON #8: Job views his life as soon to be gone.
- LESSON #9: We see Job's depression in the three statements in <u>chapter 17:1</u>: 1) "My spirit is broken"; 2) "My days are cut short"; and 3) "The grave awaits me."
- LESSON #10: Job confesses three things: 1) "My days have past"; 2) "My plans are shattered"; and 3) "The desires of my heart are shattered."

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER ELEVEN - JOB 18:1-21

NOTES

- 1. Read <u>Job 18:1-21</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What does Bildad ask Job to do, according to verse 2?
- 3. In what two ways does Bildad describe Job's treatment of them in verse 3?

- 6
- 4. How does Bildad describe the wicked in verse 5?
- 5. What ultimately happens to the wicked, according to verse 7?
- 6. Describe what the wicked one has to look forward to, according to verses 8-12.
- 7. What happens to the wicked, according to verse 17?
- 8. Summarize the sad end of the wicked, according to verses 18-21.
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

- LESSON #1: Affirmation can turn to argument if we are not on the alert.
- LESSON #2: It is so easy to accuse others of being irrational.
- LESSON #3: Anger is a normal part of the grieving process.
- LESSON #4: Job's anger is three-fold: he feels he has been mistreated by God, misunderstood by his friends, and living in miserable circumstances.

LESSON #5: God is not in the business of making exceptions for anyone.

LESSON #6: Wrong premises and right promises will do great damage.

- LESSON #7: The path of the wicked and the righteous are covered with traps put there by Satan.
- LESSON #8: Sin, Satan and the system of this world are just three of those traps.
- LESSON #9: Sin starts out below and then manifests itself above. It is first private and then public.

LESSON #10: God will have it His way!

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE - JOB 19:1-29

NOTES

- 1. Read Job 19:1-29 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. According to Job, what are his friends doing to him in verses 2 & 3?
- 3. How does Job respond to his friend's accusations, according to verse 4?

- 8
- 4. What is the hardest part of Job's suffering, according to verse 7?
- 5. How does Job feel that God is treating him, according to verse 11?
- 6. What is just killing Job, according to verse 19?
- 7. What is Job's plea, according to verse 21?
- 8. What is Job still hanging onto while he is in the crucible, according to verses 25-27?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Words from our lips can torment, crush, reproach and attack someone else.

- LESSON #2: Job is saying that each of us will be accountable for our own sin.
- LESSON #3: When exercising discipline over brothers and sisters in the body of Christ, it is easy to become self-righteous and to use the failure as a means of humiliation.

LESSON #4: Job's cries have been met with silence and no justice.

LESSON #5: Job blames God for all that has happened to him.

- LESSON #6: Job has lost all of his meaningful interpersonal relationships through his suffering.
- LESSON #7: Job's wife is not there to sympathize and support him but rather stays away.

LESSON #8: Job has barely escaped death so far.

LESSON #9: With the eye of faith, Job sees that his Vindicator lives and that in the end He will stand upon the earth.

LESSON #10: Does your heart yearn for that glorious day of manifestation?

LESSON #11: We will be held accountable for what we have said to others.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THIRTEEN - JOB 20:1-29

<u>Notes</u>

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 20:1-29</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How does Zophar describe himself, according to verse 2?

3. How does Zophar describe the wicked, according to verse 5?

- 4. What further description does Zophar give of the wicked in verses 6-9?
- 5. What will happen to the riches of the wicked, according to verse 15?
- 6. What is the curse of wealth, according to verse 20?
- 7. What does the future hold for the wealthy wicked, according to verses 21 & 22?
- 8. What will heaven and earth do to the wicked man, according to verse 27?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The tongue ought to be used with restraint when you have troubled thoughts and you are greatly disturbed.

- LESSON #2: When you speak from wounded pride, you usually provide more heat than light.
- LESSON #3: Zophar's message is a great statement of the future plight of the wicked.
- LESSON #4: It is the right message for the wrong man.

- LESSON #6: Aging forces us to give up youthful vigor and face the reality of the destiny of the dead.
- LESSON #7: Sin is always sweet but the consequences are bitter.
- LESSON #8: Sin has a fatal attraction that makes it hard to let it go.
- LESSON #9: When it comes to wealth, we are going to leave it all behind.

LESSON #10: Job is falsely accused of oppressing the poor.

LESSON #11: The certainty of God's future judgment is very real.

LESSON #12: God does allot a sure fate for the wicked.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOURTEEN - JOB 21:1-34

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 21:1-34</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What request does Job make of his friends, according to verses 2 & 3?

3. What is Job's evaluation of the wicked in verses 7-13?

LESSON #5: The painful cry of those who remain when the wicked dies is, "Where is He?"

- 4. How do the wicked respond to God, according to verses 14 & 15?
- 5. What is Job's wish for the wicked, according to verse 20?

6. What is the hardest thing to comprehend and understand about God's plan for our lives, according to <u>verses 22-26</u>?

- 7. What does Job say of his friends, according to verse 27?
- 8. What does Job think of his friends' counsel and advice, according to verse 34?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: When we just listen to the grieving person, we are giving comfort and consolation.
- LESSON #2: Job's complaint is against God and not against his three friends.
- LESSON #3: Job is frustrated by the thought that the wicked live long lives and keep on increasing in power.

- LESSON #4: Since he has felt the severity of the rod of God upon him, he cannot understand why the wicked do not experience this same rod upon them.
- LESSON #5: Many of the wicked spend their years in prosperity and go down to the grave in peace.
- LESSON #6: The sad confession of the wicked is, "Leave us alone! We have no desire to know your ways."
- LESSON #7: The wicked have no desire to serve God or to pray to Him.
- LESSON #8: God has sovereign control over the days, months, and years of our lives.
- LESSON #9: How foolish it is to think that we can teach knowledge to God.
- LESSON #10: The two words that describe the three friends' contributions to Job's life to this point are the words "nonsense" and "falsehood."

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FIFTEEN - JOB 22:1-30

<u>Notes</u>

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Job 22:1-30 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What seven questions does Eliphaz ask of Job in verses 2-5?

3. How does Eliphaz explain Job's calamity according to verses 6-11?

- 4. What question does Eliphaz ask of Job in verse 15?
- 5. What two things happen to the wicked, according to verse 16?

6. What does Eliphaz command Job to do, according to verses 21 & 22?

7. What two things does Eliphaz suggest that Job do, according to verse 23?

8. Summarize the results for Job if he will follow the advice of Eliphaz, according to verses 26 & 27.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: The Lord does take great delight in us when we walk with Him. He quiets us with His love, He rejoices over us with singing (Zephaniah 3:17).
- LESSON #2: Eliphaz falsely accuses Job of great wickedness and endless sins.
- LESSON #3: Eliphaz brings six false charges against Job to vindicate his own position.

- LESSON #4: God is in the heights of heaven, and when we die we are going to die and be with Him if we have received Jesus Christ by faith.
- LESSON #5: "All things are naked and open under the eyes of Him with whom we have to do" (<u>Hebrews 4:13</u>).
- LESSON #6: There is a broad way that leads to destruction and a narrow way that leads to life, which are you choosing?
- LESSON #7: Eliphaz misinterprets Job's words and then uses them against him.
- LESSON #8: The 7 steps to recovery outlined by Eliphaz in the conclusion of his speech are great, but not relevant to Job.
- LESSON #9: "Hitherto have you asked nothing in My name; ask, and you shall receive, that your joy may be made full" (John 16:24).
- LESSON #10: The ten promises made in the end of his speech are wonderful blessings for those who are successful in following the steps of recovery.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SIXTEEN - JOB 23:1-24:25

Notes

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Job 23:1-24:25 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Describe Job's condition, according to <u>chapter 23:2, 3</u>.

- 3. What would Job do if he had an audience with God, according to chapter 23:4, 5?
- 4. What is Job's ultimate confidence, according to chapter 23:10?

5. What is Job's evaluation of his own conduct prior to this series of tragedies in his life, according to <u>chapter 23:11, 12</u>?

- 6. From Job's perspective, what has God done to him, according to chapter 23:16?
- 7. How does Job verbalize his frustration, according to <u>chapter 24:12</u>?
- 8. Describe how God writes the finale for the wicked, according to <u>chapter 24:22-25</u>.
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: There are times in our lives when our complaint is bitter and we feel His heavy hand upon us.

LESSON #2: Many times in suffering we sense the lack of His presence.

- LESSON #3: Job feels that God would be upright and fair in His judgment if He had all the facts.
- LESSON #4: Job sees these experiences as a test to refine and ultimately purify him.
- LESSON #5: Can you give testimony that your feet have followed closely His steps and that you have kept His way without turning aside?
- LESSON #6: Do you treasure feeding on His Word more than you do on your physical food?
- LESSON #7: God is sovereign and He does whatever He pleases.
- LESSON #8: God has set a definite time and agenda for future judgment.
- LESSON #9: Sometimes it seems like the wicked are getting away with their sin but God's judgment will ultimately and certainly fall.
- LESSON #10: Are you presently walking in the light as He is in the light?
- LESSON #11: God does drag away the mighty in judgment by His power.
- LESSON #12: The wicked are exalted for a little while and then they are gone.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:



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A Practical Study of JOB: Persevere and Press On

"Understanding Sovereignty and Suffering"

PART III - Job 25-42

STUDY NUMBER SEVENTEEN - JOB 25:1-27:23

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Job 25:1-27:23 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

- 2. How does Bildad describe God, according to chapter 25:2?
- 3. What two key questions does Bildad ask in verse 4?
- 4. What questions does Job ask in chapter 26:4?

- 5. What two things has God done, according to Job in chapter 27:2?
- 6. What commitment does Job make in verses 5 & 6?
- 7. What does Job say that he will do, according to verse 11?
- 8. What happens to the wicked, according to verse 19?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

- LESSON #1: How man is declared righteous before God is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- LESSON #2: The advice of Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar has been offered without wisdom.
- LESSON #3: Nothing the three have had to say has helped to relieve Job's burden of suffering.
- LESSON #4: God is the majestic Creator of it all.
- LESSON #5: Job says, "How faint the whisper we hear of him!" This reminds us of the words of the psalmist, who says, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

- LESSON #6: Job still maintains that God has not been fair with him in the display of His justice in his case.
- LESSON #7: Job confesses to a bitterness of soul.
- LESSON #8: As long as he lives, he will not speak wickedness nor utter deceit.
- LESSON #9: As long as he lives, he will never admit that they are right about him being a sinner in need of repentance.
- LESSON #10: As long as he lives, he will maintain his integrity.
- LESSON #11: As long as he lives, he will maintain his righteousness and his clear conscience.
- LESSON #12: Job is now going to teach them "about the power of God; and the ways of the Almighty."

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHTEEN - JOB 28:1-29:25

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read <u>Job 28:1-29:25</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. How does Job feel about wisdom, according to chapter 28:12, 13?
- 3. What is God's relationship to wisdom, according to verses 23 & 24?

- 4. How does God define wisdom and understanding, according to verse 28?
- 5. What is Job longing for in chapter 29:2?
- 6. Describe Job's life previous to this series of calamities, according to verses 3-17.
- 7. Summarize Job's future expectations, according to verses 18-20.
- 8. What was precious to those who saw Job prior to these calamities, according to verse 24?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: There are five things that Job has found to help him negotiate the path of suffering: 1) trust in God; 2) the comfort of future resurrection; 3) the rod of discipline; 4) the test that reveals progress; and 5) the wisdom to effectively relate to what is happening.

LESSON #2: When you are looking for a way out, you do not need wisdom for a way through.

LESSON #3: God is the only One who knows where wisdom and understanding are located.

- LESSON #4: Wisdom comes to those who seek His face.
- LESSON #5: When the past quarrels with the present, there can be no future.
- LESSON #6: Job is longing for eight things: God's care, God's guidance, his younger days, God's fellowship, God's presence, the return of his children, God's blessing, and his past honor and respect.
- LESSON #7: Job's conversation and conduct were commended by others.
- LESSON #8: Job was compassionately involved in the lives of those who were hurting and in need.
- LESSON #9: "Righteousness" and "justice" were the clothes that he wore.
- LESSON #10: Job was "like a tree planted by the rivers of water, bringing forth its fruit in season" (Psalm 1:3).
- LESSON #11: Job's words were edifying and encouraging to others.
- LESSON #12: A smile is worth a thousand words.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER NINETEEN - JOB 30:1-31:40

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Job 30:1-31:40 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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- 2. What three things is Job experiencing, according to chapter 30:15?
- 3. What does Job say about himself in verse 16?
- 4. What two things does Job say to the Lord in verse 20?
- 5. What had Job hoped and looked for, according to verse 26?
- 6. What has happened to Job's music, according to verse 31?
- 7. What covenant did Job make, according to chapter 31:1?
- 8. What does Job say about God in verse 4?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

- LESSON #1: How easy it is to criticize and condemn someone who is really hurting.
- LESSON #2: Job accuses God of being his adversary and afflicting him.
- LESSON #3: Job's dignity and safety are in jeopardy.
- LESSON #4: Job says his life ebbs away and suffering grips him.
- LESSON #5: "I cry out to you, O God, but you do not answer; I stand up, but you merely look at me."
- LESSON #6: "The churning inside me never stops; days of suffering confront me."
- LESSON #7: My harp and my flute are tuned to a minor key.
- LESSON #8: Job made a covenant with his eyes not to look and to lust.
- LESSON #9: God does see all our ways and counts our every step.
- LESSON #10: All the "If I's" could have been changed to "If only's" and then it would have been regret rather than reflection.
- LESSON #11: Job has not put his trust in his wealth.
- LESSON #12: Job feels that God would vindicate him if He examined his record.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY - JOB 32:1-33:33

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 32:1-33:33</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Why did the three men stop answering Job, according to chapter 32:1?

3. Why is Elihu upset with Job and with his three friends, according to verses 2 & 3?

- 4. Why is Elihu speaking at this time, according to verse 18?
- 5. What does Elihu ask Job to do in <u>chapter 33:1</u>?
- 6. How does Elihu preface his remarks in verse 3?
- 7. Why does God sometimes allow adversity in our lives, according to verses 29 & 30?
- 8. What does Elihu command Job to do in verses 31-33?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: Elihu's speech is the speech of an angry man.
- LESSON #2: All four of these would-be comforters are dealing with the head and not the heart in Job's case.
- LESSON #3: Job does not need more explanations, he needs encouragement.
- LESSON #4: Elihu is bottled up and full of words and ready to speak.
- LESSON #5: Job never did say that he was pure but only blameless before God as far as he knew.
- LESSON #6: Elihu confronts Job with the fact that he is not right in accusing God of injustice.
- LESSON #7: God is not answerable to His creation with regard to why He allows things to happen.
- LESSON #8: God often speaks in a myriad of ways, and we are guilty of not recognizing His voice.
- LESSON #9: "For God does speak—now one way, now another—though man may not perceive it."
- LESSON #10: Elihu points out that suffering can be used as a teaching tool.
- LESSON #11: How long has it been since you prayed to God and found favor, and you have seen God's face in your circumstances and shouted for joy?
- LESSON #12: How many times has God faithfully confronted you with the issues in your life? twice? three times? maybe more? When are you going to respond?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-ONE - JOB 34:1-35:16

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 34:1-35:16</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What are Elihu's objectives, according to chapter 34:4?

- 3. What is unthinkable as far as Elihu is concerned, according to verse 12?
- 4. What key question does Elihu ask in verse 33?
- 5. What does Elihu say of Job, according to verses 35-37?
- 6. How does Elihu describe God in chapter 35:10, 11?

8. What does Elihu say of Job in verse 16?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: How quickly the original intention of comfort can be lost in the spirit of confrontation.
- LESSON #2: "It is unthinkable that God would do wrong, that the Almighty would pervert justice."
- LESSON #3: God could choose to take away the breath of mankind and all would perish.
- LESSON #4: God is obligated to no one when it comes to explaining the reasons why he allows certain things to happen.
- LESSON #5: "His eyes are on the ways of men; he sees their every step."
- LESSON #6: God has all the evidence He needs for a conviction.
- LESSON #7: Should God then reward you on your terms when you refuse to repent?
- LESSON #8: It is Elihu's desire that God "throw the book" at Job for his pride.
- LESSON #9: Our God is the one "who gives songs in the night."

LESSON #10: Our God is the one who teaches us how to walk with Him in fellowship.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-TWO - JOB 36:1-37:24

NOTES

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read Job 36:1-37:24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
- 2. What does Elihu ask for in chapter 36:2?
- 3. What does Elihu say about God in verse 5?
- 4. What is Elihu's concept of suffering, according to verses 8-10?

5. According to Elihu, how does God treat those who obey and serve Him, according to <u>verse 11</u>?

6. What does Elihu say about God in verse 22?

7. What does Elihu say about God in chapter 37:5?

8. How does Elihu conclude his speech about God in verse 23?

- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: Elihu feels that more needs to be spoken on God's behalf.
- LESSON #2: Elihu speaks truth when he ascribes justice to his Maker.
- LESSON #3: God is powerful and firm in His purpose.
- LESSON #4: God does not take His eyes off the righteous.
- LESSON #5: God speaks to us in our affliction.
- LESSON #6: God is in the business of teaching us important lessons in our suffering.
- LESSON #7: How great is God? He is beyond our understanding.
- LESSON #8: When is the last time you took time to behold God in some natural phenomenon?

LESSON #9: He uses the rain and the snow so that all men He has made may know His work. LESSON #10: Stop and consider God's wonders.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-THREE - JOB 38:1-39:30

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 38:1-39:30</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

- 2. What is the Lord's first question of Job in chapter 38:2?
- 3. What does the Lord tell Job to do, according to verse 3?
- 4. What does the Lord ask Job in verse 18?
- 5. What two questions does the Lord ask of Job in verse 33?

<u>Notes</u>

- 6. What is the answer to the Lord's question addressed to Job in verse 36?
- 7. What two things did God not give to the stork, according to chapter 39:17?
- 8. How does the Lord describe the horse in verses 19-22?
- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: God came to meet Job in the midst of a storm.
- LESSON #2: Job has darkened God's counsel with "words without knowledge."
- LESSON #3: God is the One who is asking the questions, not Job.
- LESSON #4: There was great joy in heaven at the creation of the earth.
- LESSON #5: "The very presence of the loving one proved sufficient to answer every question and still every doubt" (George MacDonald).
- LESSON #6: It is God who orders and controls the starry heavens.
- LESSON #7: God is the One who endows the heart with wisdom and gives understanding to the mind.

LESSON #9: God has a great sense of humor, reflected in the creation of the ostrich.

LESSON #10: So far Job has scored a "0" on his S.A.T., his Spiritual Aptitude Test.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR - JOB 40:1-42:17

QUESTIONS:

1. Read <u>Job 40:1-42:17</u> and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

- 2. What does the Lord say to Job in <u>chapter 40:2</u>?
- 3. How does Job respond to the Lord in verses 4 & 5?
- 4. What two questions does the Lord ask of Job in verse 8?
- 5. What are the question and statement that the Lord makes in chapter 41:11?

NOTES

- 6. What does Job say to the Lord in <u>chapter 42:2</u>?
- 7. What are Job's final words in verse 6?

8. What did the Lord do for Job after he prayed for his friends, according to verse 10?

- 9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
- 10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

- LESSON #1: It is awfully easy for us to contend with the Lord and correct Him by telling Him what it takes to please us.
- LESSON #2: Job's first response to the Lord is, "I am unworthy, I have no answer, I will say no more."
- LESSON #3: It is a serious matter to hear from the Lord.
- LESSON #4: We question God's integrity when we discredit His justice and condemn Him to justify ourselves.
- LESSON #5: God's challenge to Job is to take His place and be God, and then God would observe how he operates.
- LESSON #6: We see the awesome power of God displayed in His creation in <u>Job 41:8</u> when we read: "If you lay a hand on him, you will remember the struggle and never do it again!"

- LESSON #7: "Who then is able to stand against me? Who has a claim against me that I must pay?"
- LESSON #8: "Everything under heaven belongs to me."
- LESSON #9: Job acknowledges God's strength and sovereignty when he says, "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted."
- LESSON #10: Job's last words are that he "repents in dust and ashes."
- LESSON #11: Four times God refers to Job with the title "My Servant Job."
- LESSON #12: Finally his friends came to comfort and console him.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

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