

RBCPC
2011 Study Series



Week #9
Study Guide

Job

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www.rbcpc.org/mark-up-your-bible/

Overview

The book of Job begins with a meeting between God and Satan. Satan sets out to prove that God's wisdom and justice are flawed. Job suffers many losses as a result. In spite of his trials, Job's faith does not waver, and Satan is disproved once again.

Scripture Study – Key Passages

Open your Bible and read the following passages:

Job 1:8-11

1. Why do you think God uses Job as an example of an upright man?
2. Why does Satan agree to use Job for his test-case?
3. What is Satan hoping for?
4. What does God know?

Job 4:6, 8:5, 11:6,16:5

1. What are Job's friends trying to tell him in these passages?
2. Why doesn't Job listen to them?
3. What is Job's response in regard to God's justice?
4. What does Job really need from his friends?
5. How might these encounters affect the way you treat a friend in need?

Job 38:1-11

1. Why do you think God starts his discourse with a recap of creation?
2. How does Job respond? (vs. 42:1-6)
3. Why does Job's response please God?
4. So what happened to Satan? Why do you think Satan went silent after Job's restoration?

Bonus Question

What is the difference between wisdom and justice?

Key Concepts

1. God is wise and we can trust him to be just.
2. No one has the ability or authority to question God's justice.
3. In situations of suffering, looking for God's purpose is more important than looking for the cause of the suffering.

In Job, there are 23 chapters dedicated to Job and his discussions with his three friends, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar. Back and forth they argue. As time allows, discuss the key concepts in light of each friend's argument.

Reflection

Job was very candid with God. He openly communicated how he was feeling. His honesty and humility before God was apparent throughout the book. Job was saddened, confused and hurt, but he never cursed or abandoned hope. Among other lessons, this is a lesson in trust. Job trusted that God loved him and had a purpose for him beyond human comprehension.

Prayer

*After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. **Job 42:10***

What does this say to you about praying for others?

Take some time today to pray for someone you know that is suffering.

Homework

Read **Job 1:13-22**, in preparation for the sermon on Mar. 12/13, "*Job's Learned Optimism.*" Mark words, or phrases, that stand out to you.

Notes & Reflections:

