



OUR QUESTIONS: The Book of Job

Session 3

Opening Prayer:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we, Your unworthy servants, give You humble and hearty thanks for all the goodness and loving-kindness that You bestow on us. We praise You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. But above all, we bless You for Your boundless love in the redemption of the world by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Study:

Read Job 38 (and Job 39 if time allows)

Q: God reminds Job of His absolute power and majesty, and of all the things He has done and continues to do in the world. What are some of the things God reminds Job that He controls in the world?

Read this Illustration:

The well-known theologian Charles Hodge wrote about his early years at Princeton:

"It was my privilege to be the pupil-assistant of Professor Joseph Henry, the illustrious scientist. When, for the first time, electric signals were sent from point to point, the earth itself being used for the return current, Professor Henry put me at one end of the circuit, while he stood directing the experiments at the other. I can well remember the wonderful care with which he arranged them. Very often, when the testing moment came, he would raise his hand in adoring reverence and call upon me to uncover my head and worship in silence. He would say, 'Because God is here, I am about to ask Him a question.'"

Q: Do we modern people ponder things in a purely scientific manner and forget God's power behind them all?

Read Job 40

Q: Job promises silence after God's rebuke in chapters 38-39, but do we get any clear indication that he has truly repented of the words he has spoken against God?

Q: God also speaks His greatness by describing the greatness of one of the creatures He made. What name is given to this creature and what type of a creature does it sound like to you?

Q: What is the point of God's boasting? (Job 40:7-8)

Read Job 42

Q: In Job 42, Job finally repents after refusing to do so at the encouragement of his friends. What has he learned that causes such repentance? (Job 42:1-3)

Q: Job says that when he speaks now, he will be asking for instruction. He will listen more than speak. How can we take this same humble attitude before God? (Job 42:4-6)

Q: What role is Job given once he has repented? (Job 42:7-9)

Q: Job's fortune is restored to him at the end of this book. Job, now humbled, is exalted. How does this apply to our lives?

Q: Does God ever answer the question of why Job suffered? Why or why not?

Closing Prayer:

God our Savior, Your mercy is for those who fear You from generation to generation. You scatter the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. You exalt those of humble estate. You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. Grant us true humility before You, that we might always be exalted by You through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.