

THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY

JOB 38-42

Comedian Woody Allen was once asked to explain God. He replied, “I can’t explain God to you. I don’t even know how my toaster works.”

This is the humility Job obtains by the end of tonight’s chapters.

Yet for the bulk of the book - chapters 3-37 - Job had the opposite attitude. His arrogance ran rampant. In justifying himself he accused God. Job questioned, and criticized, and even taunted the Almighty.

Job got stuck on *why!* ... And *why* is an easy place to get stuck...

Focus on **what** God does, and we learn lessons and move forward.

Zero in on **Who**, God’s goodness, His righteousness, and we look up.

Linger on **why** – and you get stuck. God may not disclose His purpose. Reasons are often hidden from view. God doesn’t owe us an explanation.

Why? is like quicksand. The more you struggle to know the deeper you sink. Question God - and *disrespect*, and *pride*, and *irreverence* will grow.

Job demands insider information. He wants to know why. He acts like God is bound by the *Freedom of Information Act...* *by the way, He’s not.* Job loses the one ideal he couldn’t afford to lose – **his fear of God.**

In chapter 38 God does appear to Job, but not to answer his questions as Job had demanded. No, God takes a most unusual approach.

He comes to Job *asking questions not answering them.*

For five chapters God asks Job a series of questions he can't possibly answer. He asks a total of 70 unanswerable questions. The Almighty is about to show Job he doesn't know as much as he thinks he does.

Job is about to get whittled down to size and put back in his place!

Chapter 38, **"Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind..."**

In the previous chapter Elihu describes a storm brewing in the distance.

As he addressed Job the storm clouds seem to move closer. The wind picks up. It's now on top of Job, and God speaks from the whirlwind.

"And (God) said: "Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?" That's a fancy way for God to say, *who is this guy I've had to listen to for 28 chapters who doesn't know what he's talking about?*

"Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me." Job has spent the entire book calling into question God's reasons and judgment – now it's God's turn to ask a few questions.

Verse 4 **"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the**

earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.” God asks, “Job, were you on the shovel when I poured the footings for the universe – or were you on the bucket – *I’ve forgotten?*”

Obviously, Job wasn’t around at the dawning of creation.

And neither were we, yet it is amazing how scientists today will speak so authoritatively on the origins of the universe. How arrogant.

One day God will say to Stephen Hawkins and Richard Dawkins, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?”

Carl Sagan got the question in 1996 when he died and met his Maker.

In the 2nd grade we learn that real science is founded on two principles: *observation and verification*. It stands to reason that since God was the only observer at the time of creation – He’s the only person qualified to speak dogmatically about what actually happened and when.

God continues, “Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?” Here God even gets sarcastic!

He mocks Job, “Surely you know!” Job had answers for everything else.

Of course, Job had no way to calculate the distance of the *earth’s equator* – it’s 24,901.55 miles. The distance of the *earth’s meridian* is 24,859.82 miles. Only today we can answer God’s question.

Yet God asks Job 70 questions – and this is one of maybe

two or three we can answer. Amazingly, after 3500 years to conduct research and do homework man is capable of answering just a few of God's questions.

Needless to say, Job is not going to do very well on God's pop quiz.

“To what were its foundations fastened?” Does Job know about the law of gravity? Gravity is the force that fastens us to the planet...

“Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?” The *“morning stars”* and *“sons of God”* are used throughout the Bible as idioms for *angels*. Apparently, angels were spectators at creation. God asks Job if he was with them!

“Or who shut in the sea with doors, when it burst forth and issued from the womb; when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band...” Some scholars believe prior to Noah's day, planet Earth was shrouded in a colossal canopy of clouds and water vapor.

This **“garment of clouds”** or **“swaddling band”** shielded the earth from the sun's radiation – which allowed men to live to very old ages.

The canopy helped with climate control, and created a greenhouse effect. Warm, stable temperatures – the absence of moving weather patterns – few, if any storms - made the world a tropical paradise.

The global flood was caused by the collapse of this canopy.

God created the **“swaddling band”** and gave the ocean its

boundaries.

“When I fixed My limit for it, and set bars and doors; when I said, 'This far you may come, but no farther, and here your proud waves must stop!’”

A thousand years ago a Viking warrior, King Canute, ruled England. Canute was such a wise ruler, his subjects tried to worship him.

He refused their veneration. And to prove his mortality he took his throne to the seashore, sat it in the surf, and awaited high tide.

As the waters rose higher and higher, King Canute held his scepter above the waves, and ordered them to stop. John Phillips recounts the story. He writes, “It was as if the waters were saying, ‘We know you not, O little man. Our limits are decreed by a greater King than you.’”

Here God tells Job, He sets the boundaries for the sea and its tides.

Verse 12 "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the ends of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?" God is asking Job if he controls the dawning of the new day. Does he arrange for the sun to rise?

“It takes on form like clay under a seal, and stands out like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and the upraised arm is broken.”

"Have you entered the springs of the sea?" God indicates the existence of oceanic aquifers. In 1977 three geologists

made a discovery near the Galapagos Islands west of Peru. They found deep sea hot springs...

Underwater geysers spewed out jets of superheated fluid. Geothermal vents acted like chimneys sending magma 40 feet above the ocean floor.

Since 1977 there've been similar discoveries elsewhere in the ocean. But God knew all along, and mentioned to Job, "the springs of the sea."

"Or have you walked in search of the depths? Have the gates of death been revealed to you?" In Matthew 16 Jesus speaks of "the gates of Hell."

Verse 18 "Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death? Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this."

We mentioned in Job 26 the possibility of portals that link the physical world to the spiritual - "the gates of Hades" or here "the doors of death."

Those gates, or warps, are associated with the seas and ocean.

"Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place, that you may take it to its territory, that you may know the paths to its home? Do you know it, because you were born then, or because the number of your days is great?" *Job, are you old enough to know the mysteries of light? Where is its dwelling? Do you know its path?*

Even with our modern knowledge, we can't define light. Is it energy or a particle? It has the characteristics of a wave, but it also has mass, and consists of sub-particles.

Light is still a mystery.

In verse 22 God asks Job, "Have you entered the treasury of snow, or have you seen the treasury of hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? This is also mystery - where are the treasuries of snow and hail? Does God keep them stockpiled?"

God tells Job, He keeps the hail reserved for the day of battle and war.

When you study the battles of Israel many of them were won because of divine intervention. God sent a hailstorm at just the right time.

In the last days, Antichrist will set himself up as god, and the world will worship him. Revelation 16 says God will judge this blasphemy as He did in the OT – with stoning. He'll pelt the planet with 100 pound hailstones.

That hail is in His treasury until the "time of trouble" and "day of battle."

Verse 24 "By what way is light diffused, or the east wind scattered over the earth? Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water, or a path for the thunderbolt..." In 1825, a US sailor, Matthew Maury, was reading verse 25. He was surprised to see the mention of channels in the sea.

He started studying water temperatures and currents. His inquiry led to a whole new discipline of study called *oceanography*. Maury was called "the pathfinder of the sea." Today he's known as "the father of modern oceanography," but his inspiration came from the ancient book of Job.

God continues, who will “cause it to rain on a land where there is no one, a wilderness in which there is no man; to satisfy the desolate waste, and cause to spring forth the growth of tender grass?

“Has the rain a father? Or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb comes the ice? And the frost of heaven, who gives it birth? The waters harden like stone, and the surface of the deep is frozen.”

We can *somewhat* predict the weather. Only God causes it to rain.

In verse 31 God goes above the clouds, and speaks of outer space.

"Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, or loose the belt of Orion?

Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs? “Mazzaroth” is the Hebrew word for the ["Zodiac."](#)

The other three constellations God mentions are the *Pleiades*, *Orion the Hunter*, and the *Great Bear* (or also called the Big Dipper). Evidently, Job knew about these constellations, but who was he to steer the stars?

“Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth?” Did Job arrange these constellations?

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that an abundance of water may cover you?" Can Job bring rain on command? “Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, and say to

you, 'Here we are!'? Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart?"

The odds of a lightning strike - at any given place - at any given time - are 1 in 2 million. Job can't predict a hit, let alone send out a bolt.

Verse 37, "Who can number the clouds by wisdom?

Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven, when the dust hardens in clumps, and the clods cling together?" 3500 years ago who could have known rain occurs when water vapor condenses around dust particles.

In the days of Job only God knew the science of cloud formation.

From verse 39 into chapter 39 God gives Job a lesson in zoology.

"Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lurk in their lairs to lie in wait?" Does Job feed the lions? "Who provides food for the raven, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?" Not Job.

"Do you know the time when the wild mountain goats bear young? Or can you mark when the deer gives birth? Can you number the months that they fulfill? Or do you know the time when they bear young?"

Does Job know the gestation periods for animal reproduction? An elephant stays pregnant for two years – a opossum for two weeks.

Yet both produce healthy offspring! "They bow down, they

bring forth their young, they deliver their offspring. Their young ones are healthy, they grow strong with grain; they depart and do not return to them.”

Who decides how long an animal is pregnant? Is it Job?

"Who set the wild donkey free? Who loosed the bonds of the onager (which was a species of wild donkey), whose home I have made the wilderness, and the barren land his dwelling? He scorns the tumult of the city; he does not heed the shouts of the driver.

The range of the mountains is his pasture, and he searches after every green thing.” Today, the wild donkeys in Israel are extinct.

"Will the wild ox be willing to serve you? Will he bed by your manger? Can you bind the wild ox in the furrow with ropes? Or will he plow the valleys behind you? Will you trust him because his strength is great?

Or will you leave your labor to him? Will you trust him to bring home your grain, and gather it to your threshing floor?"

The OKJ renders “wild ox” as unicorn – not a good translation. This was the aurochs. It was an animal bigger than a hippo. The wild ox was wild, strong, and ferocious.

Plowing a field with an aurochs would be like plowing with an elephant. Today the aurochs is extinct. The last one was seen in Israel in 1627.

Verse 13 "The wings of the ostrich wave proudly, but are her wings and pinions like the kindly stork's? For she leaves her eggs on the ground, and warms them in the dust; she forgets

that a foot may crush them, or that a wild beast may break them. She treats her young harshly, as though they were not hers; her labor is in vain, without concern...

The ostrich is an interesting animal – it's the largest bird on earth. They weigh upwards of 400 pounds. But ostriches are the ultimate **birdbrain**...

The mother ostrich buries her eggs in the ground, only to forget their location. Later she comes back and crushes them with her own feet.

And why is the ostrich so stupid? Verse 17 tells us, "Because God deprived her of wisdom, and did not endow her with understanding."

Why would God make an ostrich so stupid? The answer... we don't know! This is the answer to a lot of our questions about God. We need to get use to not knowing why. It's a common dilemma for a true believer.

One commentator puts it this way, "It's as if God is saying to Job, 'Get use to My absurdity, and live by faith rather than sight.'"

For whatever reason, God made the ostrich stupid. But to compensate, he made her fast. Verse 18 "When she lifts herself on high, she scorns the horse and its rider." An ostrich can outrun a horse doing 40 mph.

And there's a lesson here... if you're *stupid* you need to be *quick*.

Any horse lovers here tonight?

You'll love verse 19 "Have you given the horse strength?"

Have you clothed his neck with thunder? Can you frighten him like a locust?

His majestic snorting strikes terror. He paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength; he gallops into the clash of arms. He mocks at fear, and is not frightened; nor does he turn back from the sword.” Here’s a warhorse.

“The quiver rattles against him, the glittering spear and javelin. He devours the distance with fierceness and rage; nor does he come to a halt because the trumpet has sounded.” A horse bravely gallops into the fray.

“At the blast of the trumpet he says, 'Aha!' He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of captains and shouting.” He charges to the firing line.

Verse 26 continues God’s questions for Job... "Does the hawk fly by your wisdom, and spread its wings toward the south? Does the eagle mount up at your command, and make its nest on high?

On the rocks it dwells and resides, on the crag of the rock and the stronghold. From there it spies out the prey; its eyes observe from afar.

Its young ones suck up blood; and where the slain are, there it is."

Again, God’s observations about nature were meant to humble Job.

When Job asked the questions, in his own mind he was growing larger and larger, and God was getting smaller and smaller. Now that God is on the asking end, Job is the one shrinking. God is growing in significance.

Chapter 40, “Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said: “Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.” *Job had assumed he was smarter than God.*

But it’s time for Job to put down his pencil and turn in the test.

Verse 3 “Then Job answered the LORD and said: “Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.”

At first glance you might think Job gets the message, but not so.

Job simply goes from *pounding* to *pouting* – *beating his fist to sticking out his lip*. He’s saying, “Okay God, You win. You’ve made Your point. You’re bigger than I am. So I’ll just shut up and serve you.”

Job is agreeing to serve the Lord, but you can bet he’ll serve Him with a grudge. Job has accepted God’s sovereignty, but he doesn't really like it!

*God doesn’t want us to **pound** or **pout**, but **praise** Him for **Who He is!***

Sadly, at the moment Job was pouting. He’s giving in only because he has no other choice... *And God is not through correcting Job’s attitude...*

“Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: “Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you,

and you shall answer Me:"

God didn't like the answers he got from Job so here're more questions.

"Would you indeed annul My judgment? Would you condemn Me that you may be justified?" This was Job's most grievous mistake.

It wasn't a particular sin that caused Job's calamity, but Job did sin in response to his calamity. In vindicating himself, he lost respect for God.

And with these questions God restores Job's humility and repentance.

"Have you an arm like God? Or can you thunder with a voice like His?"

Then adorn yourself with majesty and splendor, and array yourself with glory and beauty. Disperse the rage of your wrath; look on everyone who is proud, and humble him. Look on everyone who is proud, and bring him low; tread down the wicked in their place. Hide them in the dust together, bind their faces in hidden darkness. Then I will also confess to you that your own right hand can save you." Did you hear about the world's most conceited man? *He called dial-a-prayer to see if he had any messages.*

Here God is offering Job the opportunity to be God for a day.

God asks Job if he can do the stuff you need to do to be God? Adorn yourself with glory, judge sin, break the proud – *is Job up for this job?*

Job has acted like a man who wants to be God... *but is he so sure?*

What God does next is intriguing, up to this point He's noted twelve animals - now God mentions two more, but not ordinary beasts...

The Behemoth and the Leviathan were the most feared beasts of Job's day. Behemoth was the king of the land. Leviathan was king of the sea.

Some people think the Behemoth was a wild ox, or hippo, or rhino, or woolly mammoth – while Leviathan was a crocodile or a sea serpent.

None of the theories are an exact match. I'll let you decide...

Verse 15, "Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you (man and beast were created on Day Six); he eats grass like an ox.

See now, his strength is in his hips, and his power is in his stomach muscles. He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are tightly knit. His bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron."

A tail like a cedar tree - bones like beams - and ribs like iron bars.

This is not just a hippopotamus. It's my belief that Behemoth was a dinosaur. He may've been a [Brontosaurus](#) or [Apatosaurus](#).

Dinosaurs were created on the Sixth Day and named by Adam. Noah took them on the Ark – [a Jurassic Ark](#) – probably as babies or eggs.

After the flood the Earth probably lacked the vegetation to support their enormous diets. In addition, after the vapor canopy collapsed the solar radiation and changing ecosystem did in the dinosaurs.

Yet there may've been a few still around in Job's day. Recall the book of Job is oldest in the Bible. At least Job knew of the dinosaurs. To the chagrin of evolutionists, evidence exists - cave drawings and historical records - of men who lived contemporaneously with the dinosaurs.

More about Behemoth... "He is the first of the ways of God; only He who made him can bring near His sword." Only God can handle him.

"Surely the mountains yield food for him, and all the beasts of the field play there. He lies under the lotus trees, in a covert of reeds and marsh.

The lotus trees cover him with their shade; the willows by the brook surround him. Indeed the river may rage, yet he is not disturbed; he is confident, though the Jordan gushes into his mouth, though he takes it in his eyes, or one pierces his nose with a snare." Not even raging rivers intimidate Behemoth. The current doesn't move him. He's not disturbed.

Chapter 41 "Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook, or snare his tongue with a line which you lower?" Would you fish for Leviathan?

Can you put a reed through his nose, or pierce his jaw with a hook?

Remember a scene from the movie [Jaws](#). A couple of guys are fishing. They hook the shark and he takes the dock along

with them out to sea.

This is how Leviathan would react if hooked by a rod and reel.

“Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak softly to you? Will he make a covenant with you? Will you take him as a servant forever?

Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you leash him for your maidens? Will your companions make a banquet of him?

Will they apportion him among the merchants?

Can you fill his skin with harpoons, or his head with fishing spears?

Lay your hand on him; remember the battle - never do it again!”

One tangle with Leviathan and it's your last. This is a creature no one wants to battle. *Do and you lose.* Yet God created and controls him.

Verse 9 “Indeed, any hope of overcoming him is false; shall one not be overwhelmed at the sight of him? No one is so fierce that he would dare stir him up. Who then is able to stand against Me? Who has preceded Me, that I should pay him? Everything under heaven is Mine.

I will not conceal his limbs, his mighty power, or his graceful proportions. Who can remove his outer coat? Who can approach him with a double bridle? Who can open the doors of his face, with his terrible teeth all around? His rows of scales are his pride, shut up tightly as with a seal; one is so near another that no air can come between them; they are joined one to another, they stick together and cannot be

parted.”

His legs are strong. His teeth are terrible. His scales are like armor.

“His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. Out of his mouth go burning lights; sparks of fire shoot out.

Smoke goes out of his nostrils, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth.”

With all due respect this is no crocodile or alligator.

This description of Leviathan is that of a fire-breathing dragon. It's interesting that dinosaurs like [Corythosaurus](#) and [Lambeosaurus](#) had hollow cavities on top of their heads with tubes that ran to their nostrils.

Author Henry Morris writes of these dinosaurs, “It is conceivable that this could have served as a sort of mixing chamber for combustible gases that would ignite when exhaled into the outside oxygen.”

There are species of beetles that release combustible materials.

Traditions and legends from all over the world speak of fire-breathing creatures. To me it's reasonable to believe they existed at one time.

In fact, they still exist. Dinosaurs have been found in modern times.

In 1977 some fisherman off the coast of New Zealand landed a recently decomposed [plesiosaur](#). It was a dinosaur.

Who knows what creatures still live in the depths of sea? Can you say, “Loch Ness Monster?”

The description of Leviathan continues in verse 22 “Strength dwells in his neck, and sorrow dances before him. The folds of his flesh are joined together; they are firm on him and cannot be moved.

His heart is as hard as stone, even as hard as the lower millstone.

When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid; because of his crashings they are beside themselves. Though the sword reaches him, it cannot avail; nor does spear, dart, or javelin. He regards iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. He’s strong. His hide is tough.

“The arrow cannot make him flee; slingstones become like stubble to him.” Men throw rocks to shoo him away, and they bounce off him.

“Darts are regarded as straw; he laughs at the threat of javelins.”

Verse 30 “His undersides are like sharp potsherds; he spreads pointed marks in the mire. He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. He leaves a shining wake behind him; one would think the deep had white hair. On earth there is nothing like him, which is made without fear. He beholds every high thing; he is king over all the children of pride.” This final description has a sinister tone.

“King over all the children of pride” sounds like a title for

Satan.

Remember we mentioned that in Job 26:12-13 and in Psalm 89:9-10 the creation is depicted as a battle between God and the sea serpent.

In Genesis, Satan first appears as a snake with legs – or a dragon.

It could be that Leviathan is actually a personification of Satan.

Chapter 42, Then Job answered the LORD and said: "I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?'

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." Obviously, this time Job gets the point.

Job is no longer grumbling under his breath. He's no longer trying to make the most of a raw deal. This isn't Job just giving in because he has no other choice. This is not reluctant, begrudging agreement.

To the contrary, Job is repentant. Reverence has been restored.

At the end of his ordeal, Job realizes he has no right to question the Almighty. God is sovereign. He owes no man

anything. He does as He pleases – without *getting our permission* or *offering us an explanation*.

God's ways are wonderful whether we understand them or not.

Recall, Job never learned why. Job never read the first two chapters of the book of Job – but he learned something more valuable – Job learned *Who...* And when you know **WHO** you don't need to know *Why...*

Author Don Baker articulates it this way, *"If there is anything a sufferer needs, it is not an explanation, but a fresh, new look at God."*

I know folks whose chief ambition in getting to heaven is to get answers to their questions - and I'm sure they'll get their answers. But I'm just as sure in heaven their answers won't be nearly as important as they think.

When we see the beauty and glory of Jesus – all the perplexities and questions are overshadowed. In the end, *Who will swallow up the whys!*

Following the difficult days of WW 2, King George of England made a statement to his countrymen about the uncertainty of the New Year...

"I said to the man at the Gate of the Year, 'Give me a light that I may walk safely into the unknown.'... He said to me, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the hand of God, and it shall be to you better than the light, and safer than the known.'" Let's all grip God's hand a little tighter.

Once, an old man was walking with his grandson. He asked

the boy, "Do you know where you are?" *"No Grandpa, I don't."*
"Do you know how far you are from home?" *"No sir..."* "Its sounds to me like you're lost."

The little boy grinned, *"Nope grandpa, I can't be lost."*
Grandpa asked, "Why are you so sure?" He said, *"I can't be lost, because I'm with you!"*

That's what God wants us to learn. Even when we don't understand we're never lost when we're with God. He can be trusted! Always remember, **"What's over your head is still under God's feet!"**

Verse 7 **"And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends (Bildad and Zophar), for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has." This was vindication to Job.**

"Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you." How ironic, the man they accused for 28 chapters is the one who will pray and intercede for them.

Verse 8 **"For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."** Notice, God rejects their kindergarten theology.

In this life good is not always rewarded and evil isn't always punished. God has reasons hidden from view, and we have to learn to trust Him.

“So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the LORD commanded them; for the LORD had accepted Job.” At this point there’s nothing different about Job’s situation. He’s still grieving over losses and boils.

Yet God accepted Job because of his faith. Apparently, you can’t judge a man’s spiritual condition by his physical or financial status.

Verse 10 “And the LORD restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.”

And when did this happen? When Job let go of his bitterness and prayed for his hurtful friends. Forgiveness was a key that turned the lock, and unleashed God’s blessing in Job’s life.

“Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all those who had been his acquaintances before, came to him and ate food with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversity that the LORD had brought upon him. Each one gave him a piece of silver and each a ring of gold.” Happy days are here again. The tide is turning...

“Now the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys.” Check chapter 1 - this is double where Job started.

“He also had seven sons and three daughters. And he called the name of the first Jemimah (which means

“dove”), the name of the second Keziah (“perfume”), and the name of the third Keren-Happuch (“eye-paint”).” All three names emphasize beauty and femininity.

“In all the land were found no women so beautiful as the daughters of Job; and their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.”

Verse 16 closes, “After this Job lived 140 years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations. So Job died, old and full of days...”

Tradition says Job died at 210 years old. If he was 70 at the time of his calamity - God doubled his lifespan. God blessed Job abundantly, but his greatest blessing by far was his knowledge of God. He got a new **attitude** during his days on the **ash heap**. Job gained a deeper knowledge of God.

Let me close with some encouragement... If you're suffering without a reason - **Love God, don't fight Him! Trust God, don't question Him!**

Don't *pound* or *pout* – learn to **praise** God for His greatness and His glory. Real faith doesn't need to know *why* - when it's certain of *Who!*