

MESSAGE NOTES for "The Answer Given to Job"

Job 38-42
April 5th, 2020

Introduction - "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

The Bad Counsel Job's friends gave

1. You brought this on yourself
2. You suffer without notice
3. You lack faith
4. Suicide is the answer
5. There is no hope

A little backstory to the book of Job so far

God finally speaks, but first...

Two "outs" God doesn't use

1. "Job, I picked you because you were the most righteous person on the earth!" I picked you to bless you and glorify myself!" You are my #1 guy, Job!
2. "I didn't do this! Satan did!" If you were just involved in the conference we had in heaven, it would all make sense to you.

The Answer given to Job - Job 38-42

God Questions Job - Job 38

God Continues to Question Job - Job 39

God Pauses to hear Job - Job 40:1-5

God Now Defends Himself - Job 40:6-14

Job's Response - Job 42:1-6

God Honors Job - Job 42:7-9

God's Restores Job - Job 42:10-17

The normal pattern of suffering

WHAT?!?! leads to WHY?!?!

How God wants us to go through suffering:

WHAT?!?! leads to WHO!!!

The Ultimate Answer given to Job:

I AM

How is this pattern repeated in the rest of the Bible?

Psalm 46:10

Proverbs 3:5-6

2 Timothy 8-12

Gospel Application - *What Job learned that we can learn*

1. Move from WHY? to WHO?
2. Do not allow yourself to move from the Greatness and Goodness of God, exhibited most clearly in Good Friday and Easter
3. Repent of our DEMANDINGNESS to know WHY

Bible Passages:

Job 7:11

¹¹Therefore I will not keep silent; I will speak out in the anguish of my spirit, I will complain in the bitterness of my soul."

Job 10:1-3

¹"I loathe my very life; therefore I will give free rein to my complaint and speak out in the bitterness of my soul. ²I will say to God: Do not condemn me, but tell me what charges you have against me. ³Does it please you to oppress me, to spurn the work of your hands, while you smile on the schemes of the wicked?"

Job 19:5-7

⁵"If indeed you would exalt yourselves above me and use my humiliation against me, ⁶then know that God has wronged me and drawn his net around me. ⁷Though I cry, 'I've been wronged!' I get no response; though I call for help, there is no justice."

Job 31:35-37

³⁵"Oh, that I had someone to hear me! I sign now my defense— let the Almighty answer me; let my accuser put his indictment in writing. ³⁶Surely I would wear it on my shoulder, I would put it on like a crown. ³⁷I would give him an account of my every step; like a prince I would approach him."

Job 38 - 42

38 Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

²"Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?

³Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

⁴"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

⁵Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

⁶On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone—

⁷while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels^j shouted for joy?

⁸"Who shut up the sea behind doors
when it burst forth from the womb,

⁹when I made the clouds its garment
and wrapped it in thick darkness,

¹⁰when I fixed limits for it
and set its doors and bars in place,

¹¹when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther;
here is where your proud waves halt'?

¹²"Have you ever given orders to the morning,

or shown the dawn its place,
13 that it might take the earth by the edges
and shake the wicked out of it?
14 The earth takes shape like clay under a seal;
its features stand out like those of a garment.
15 The wicked are denied their light,
and their upraised arm is broken.

16 "Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
17 Have the gates of death been shown to you?
Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?
18 Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth?
Tell me, if you know all this.

19 "What is the way to the abode of light?
And where does darkness reside?
20 Can you take them to their places?
Do you know the paths to their dwellings?
21 Surely you know, for you were already born!
You have lived so many years!

22 "Have you entered the storehouses of the snow
or seen the storehouses of the hail,
23 which I reserve for times of trouble,
for days of war and battle?
24 What is the way to the place where the lightning is dispersed,
or the place where the east winds are scattered over the earth?
25 Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain,
and a path for the thunderstorm,
26 to water a land where no one lives,
an uninhabited desert,
27 to satisfy a desolate wasteland
and make it sprout with grass?
28 Does the rain have a father?
Who fathers the drops of dew?
29 From whose womb comes the ice?
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens
30 when the waters become hard as stone,
when the surface of the deep is frozen?

31 "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades?
Can you loosen Orion's belt?
32 Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons
or lead out the Bear with its cubs?
33 Do you know the laws of the heavens?
Can you set up God's dominion over the earth?

34 "Can you raise your voice to the clouds
and cover yourself with a flood of water?
35 Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?

Do they report to you, 'Here we are'?

³⁶ Who gives the ibis wisdom
or gives the rooster understanding? ^e

³⁷ Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?
Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens

³⁸ when the dust becomes hard
and the clods of earth stick together?

³⁹ "Do you hunt the prey for the lioness
and satisfy the hunger of the lions

⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens
or lie in wait in a thicket?

⁴¹ Who provides food for the raven
when its young cry out to God
and wander about for lack of food?

39 "Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

Do you watch when the doe bears her fawn?

² Do you count the months till they bear?
Do you know the time they give birth?

³ They crouch down and bring forth their young;
their labor pains are ended.

⁴ Their young thrive and grow strong in the wilds;
they leave and do not return.

⁵ "Who let the wild donkey go free?
Who untied its ropes?

⁶ I gave it the wasteland as its home,
the salt flats as its habitat.

⁷ It laughs at the commotion in the town;
it does not hear a driver's shout.

⁸ It ranges the hills for its pasture
and searches for any green thing.

⁹ "Will the wild ox consent to serve you?
Will it stay by your manger at night?

¹⁰ Can you hold it to the furrow with a harness?
Will it till the valleys behind you?

¹¹ Will you rely on it for its great strength?
Will you leave your heavy work to it?

¹² Can you trust it to haul in your grain
and bring it to your threshing floor?

¹³ "The wings of the ostrich flap joyfully,
though they cannot compare
with the wings and feathers of the stork.

¹⁴ She lays her eggs on the ground
and lets them warm in the sand,

¹⁵ unmindful that a foot may crush them,
that some wild animal may trample them.

¹⁶ She treats her young harshly, as if they were not hers;
she cares not that her labor was in vain,
¹⁷ for God did not endow her with wisdom
or give her a share of good sense.
¹⁸ Yet when she spreads her feathers to run,
she laughs at horse and rider.

¹⁹ “Do you give the horse its strength
or clothe its neck with a flowing mane?
²⁰ Do you make it leap like a locust,
striking terror with its proud snorting?
²¹ It paws fiercely, rejoicing in its strength,
and charges into the fray.
²² It laughs at fear, afraid of nothing;
it does not shy away from the sword.
²³ The quiver rattles against its side,
along with the flashing spear and lance.
²⁴ In frenzied excitement it eats up the ground;
it cannot stand still when the trumpet sounds.
²⁵ At the blast of the trumpet it snorts, ‘Aha!’
It catches the scent of battle from afar,
the shout of commanders and the battle cry.

²⁶ “Does the hawk take flight by your wisdom
and spread its wings toward the south?
²⁷ Does the eagle soar at your command
and build its nest on high?
²⁸ It dwells on a cliff and stays there at night;
a rocky crag is its stronghold.
²⁹ From there it looks for food;
its eyes detect it from afar.
³⁰ Its young ones feast on blood,
and where the slain are, there it is.”

40 The LORD said to Job:

² “Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him?
Let him who accuses God answer him!”

³ Then Job answered the LORD:

⁴ “I am unworthy – how can I reply to you?
I put my hand over my mouth.
⁵ I spoke once, but I have no answer –
twice, but I will say no more.”

⁶ Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm:

⁷ “Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

8 "Would you discredit my justice?
Would you condemn me to justify yourself?
9 Do you have an arm like God's,
and can your voice thunder like his?
10 Then adorn yourself with glory and splendor,
and clothe yourself in honor and majesty.
11 Unleash the fury of your wrath,
look at all who are proud and bring them low,
12 look at all who are proud and humble them,
crush the wicked where they stand.
13 Bury them all in the dust together;
shroud their faces in the grave.
14 Then I myself will admit to you
that your own right hand can save you.

15 "Look at Behemoth,
which I made along with you
and which feeds on grass like an ox.
16 What strength it has in its loins,
what power in the muscles of its belly!
17 Its tail sways like a cedar;
the sinews of its thighs are close-knit.
18 Its bones are tubes of bronze,
its limbs like rods of iron.
19 It ranks first among the works of God,
yet its Maker can approach it with his sword.
20 The hills bring it their produce,
and all the wild animals play nearby.
21 Under the lotus plants it lies,
hidden among the reeds in the marsh.
22 The lotuses conceal it in their shadow;
the poplars by the stream surround it.
23 A raging river does not alarm it;
it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth.
24 Can anyone capture it by the eyes,
or trap it and pierce its nose?

41 "Can you pull in Leviathan with a fishhook
or tie down its tongue with a rope?
2 Can you put a cord through its nose
or pierce its jaw with a hook?
3 Will it keep begging you for mercy?
Will it speak to you with gentle words?
4 Will it make an agreement with you
for you to take it as your slave for life?
5 Can you make a pet of it like a bird
or put it on a leash for the young women in your house?
6 Will traders barter for it?
Will they divide it up among the merchants?

⁷ Can you fill its hide with harpoons
or its head with fishing spears?
⁸ If you lay a hand on it,
you will remember the struggle and never do it again!
⁹ Any hope of subduing it is false;
the mere sight of it is overpowering.
¹⁰ No one is fierce enough to rouse it.
Who then is able to stand against me?
¹¹ Who has a claim against me that I must pay?
Everything under heaven belongs to me.

¹² "I will not fail to speak of Leviathan's limbs,
its strength and its graceful form.
¹³ Who can strip off its outer coat?
Who can penetrate its double coat of armor?
¹⁴ Who dares open the doors of its mouth,
ringed about with fearsome teeth?
¹⁵ Its back has rows of shields
tightly sealed together;
¹⁶ each is so close to the next
that no air can pass between.
¹⁷ They are joined fast to one another;
they cling together and cannot be parted.
¹⁸ Its snorting throws out flashes of light;
its eyes are like the rays of dawn.
¹⁹ Flames stream from its mouth;
sparks of fire shoot out.
²⁰ Smoke pours from its nostrils
as from a boiling pot over burning reeds.
²¹ Its breath sets coals ablaze,
and flames dart from its mouth.
²² Strength resides in its neck;
dismay goes before it.
²³ The folds of its flesh are tightly joined;
they are firm and immovable.
²⁴ Its chest is hard as rock,
hard as a lower millstone.
²⁵ When it rises up, the mighty are terrified;
they retreat before its thrashing.
²⁶ The sword that reaches it has no effect,
nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin.
²⁷ Iron it treats like straw
and bronze like rotten wood.
²⁸ Arrows do not make it flee;
slingstones are like chaff to it.
²⁹ A club seems to it but a piece of straw;
it laughs at the rattling of the lance.
³⁰ Its undersides are jagged potsherds,
leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge.
³¹ It makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron

and stirs up the sea like a pot of ointment.
³² It leaves a glistening wake behind it;
one would think the deep had white hair.
³³ Nothing on earth is its equal —
a creature without fear.
³⁴ It looks down on all that are haughty;
it is king over all that are proud.”

Job

42 Then Job replied to the LORD:

² “I know that you can do all things;
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
³ You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’
Surely I spoke of things I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me to know.
⁴ “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.’
⁵ My ears had heard of you
but now my eyes have seen you.
⁶ Therefore I despise myself
and repent in dust and ashes.”

⁷ After the LORD had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. ⁸ So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.” ⁹ So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the LORD told them; and the LORD accepted Job’s prayer.

¹⁰ After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. ¹¹ All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring.

¹² The LORD blessed the latter part of Job’s life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. ¹³ And he also had seven sons and three daughters. ¹⁴ The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. ¹⁵ Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job’s daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers.

¹⁶ After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. ¹⁷ And so Job died, an old man and full of years. ¹

Psalm 46:10

¹ [The New International Version](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011), Job 38:1–42:17.

¹⁰He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” ²

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2 Timothy 8-12

⁸So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹He has saved us and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹²That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

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Luke 9:51 (ESV)

When the days drew near for him to be taken up,
he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

Luke 19:28-44

²⁸After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰“Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Luke 19:28-44

³²Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

³⁴They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

³⁵They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

Luke 19:28-44

³⁷When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

[ALL READ TOGETHER]

³⁸“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Luke 19:28-44

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus,
“Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

⁴⁰“I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet,
the stones will cry out.”

Luke 19:28-44

⁴¹As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it ⁴²and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace – but now it is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”



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Journey of Job

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This week's message:

The Answer Given to Job
Job 38-42

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Two "outs" God doesn't use

God finally speaks, but first...

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"I didn't do this! Satan did!" If you were just involved in the conference we had in heaven, it would all make sense to you.

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¹⁰ Then adorn yourself with glory and splendor,
and clothe yourself in honor and majesty.

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proud and bring them low, ¹² look at all who are proud
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Job's Response – Job 42:1-6

¹Then Job replied to the LORD:

²“I know that you can do all things;
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. ⁴“You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ ⁵My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. ⁶Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

God Honors Job

Job 42:7-9

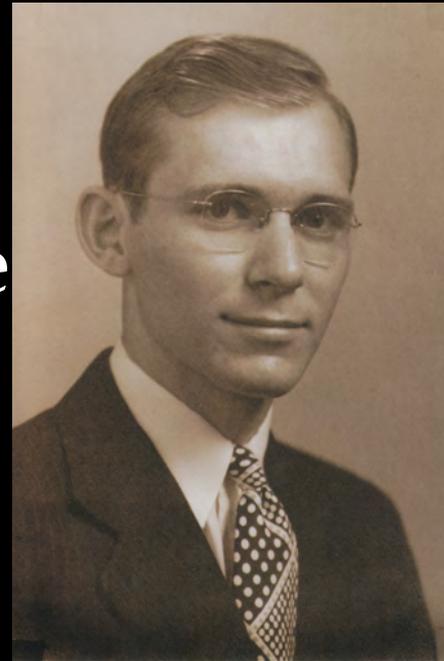
⁷After the LORD had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. ⁸So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.”

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⁹So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the LORD told them; and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

The counselors certainly lacked the right information about why Job was suffering. Job spoke without understanding (v.3) and was often fiery and emotional in his remarks (15:12-13; 18:4). His opinions and feelings were often wrong, but his facts were right. He was not being punished for sins he had committed. But the friends were claiming to know for a certainty



things they did not know and so were falsely accusing Job while mouthing beautiful words about God. Job rightly accused them of lying about him and trying to flatter God (13:4, 7-11).

~ Elmer B. Smick, "Job," in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job*, ed. Frank E. Gaebelin, vol. 4 , page 1057.



God's Restores Job

Job 42:10-17

¹⁰ After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. ¹¹ All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring.

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God's Restores Job

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¹⁶ After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation.

¹⁷ And so Job died, an old man and full of years.

How is this pattern repeated in the rest of the Bible?

The normal pattern of suffering

The normal pattern of suffering
WHAT?!?! leads to WHY?!?!

This rage against explanation is appropriate to the times we are in due to Covid-19. It also fits with our study of the book of Job. It may fit with the pain and heartache you're experiencing. Hear me: suffering is unintelligible. It does not make sense. Illness doesn't make sense. Evil doesn't make sense. Violence doesn't make sense. It is why we use the term "senseless violence." It lacks sense.



School shootings do not make sense to us. Pandemics do not make sense to us. Suffering on a deeply personal or nearly universal scale does not make sense to us. Like Ivan, we might wonder “God, where are you? Where is your goodness? How can such things exist before you?”



~ Cor Chmielecki, HCC Monday Musings, March 30th, 2020

**The normal pattern of suffering
WHAT?!?! leads to WHY?!?!**

How God wants us to go through suffering:

The normal pattern of suffering
WHAT?!?! leads to WHY?!?!

How God wants us to go through suffering:
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The Ultimate Answer given to Job:

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I AM**

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I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”

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⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

How is this pattern repeated in the rest of the Bible?

2 Timothy 8-12

⁸So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹He has saved us and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace.

This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus,

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2 Timothy 8-12

who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹²That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

Gospel Application:

What Job learned that we can learn

1. *Move from WHY? to WHO?*

2. *Do not allow yourself to move from the Greatness and Goodness of God, exhibited most clearly in Good Friday and Easter*

3. *Repent of our DEMANDINGNESS to know WHY*