# The Book of Job

The Unsearchable Wisdom of God

LESSON 15
JOB'S "REPENTANCE" AND RESTORATION
JOB 42

## Chiastic Outline of Job

A. Job's Afflictions (1–2)

B. Job's First Response (3)

C. 3 Cycles of Debate (4–27)

D. Wisdom Poem (28)

C'. 3 Major Speeches (29–41)

B'. Job's Second Response (42:1-9)

A'. Job's Prosperity (42:10–17)

# I. Job's "Repentance" (42:1-9)

Job 42:1 Then Job answered the LORD and said:

- **2** "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
- **3** 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
- 4 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.'
- 5 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;
- 6 therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

## I. Job's "Repentance" (42:6)

- 42:6 Therefore I despise myself?
- מְאַט ma'as = idea of rejecting something
- "Repent" word usually is วาซ**shub**; to turn back, return
- 42:6 uses a different Hebrew word, □□□ nacham; to be sorry, console oneself

# I. Job's "Repentance" (42:6)

- "Therefore I will reject and I change my mind about dust and ashes." (Garrett)
- "Therefore I reject and turn away from lamenting."
   (Wilson)
- Job is satisfied with God's answer and is ready to get on with life.

# I. Job's "Repentance" (42:1 - 9)

- **Job 42:7** After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: "My anger burns against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.
- 8 Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and offer up a burnt offering for yourselves. And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has."
- **9** So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

# Review: The Basic Errors of Job's Friends (They did not speak what is right about God)

- They are dishonest about the facts of the world when they conflict with their Doctrine of Retribution.
- 2. They box God in to conform to the Doctrine of Retribution.
- 3. They accuse innocent Job of evil.
- 4. The "deeper problem" of buying the spiritual visitor's view that God looks at people and sees nothing of value.

# Job a picture of a Righteous Sufferer?

- **Isa 53:10** Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
- 11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.
- 12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

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A'. Job's Prosperity (42:10–17)

- **Job 42:10** And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends. And the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.
- 11 Then came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and ate bread with him in his house. And they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him. And each of them gave him a piece of money and a ring of gold.
- 12 And the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning. And he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys.

- 13 He had also seven sons and three daughters.
- 14 And he called the name of the first daughter Jemimah, and the name of the second Keziah, and the name of the third Keren-happuch.
- 15 And in all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.
- 16 And after this Job lived 140 years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, four generations.
- 17 And Job died, an old man, and full of days.

- **Job 5:17** "Behold, blessed is the one whom God reproves; therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty.
- **Job 5:25 26** You shall know also that your offspring shall be many, and your descendants as the grass of the earth. You shall come to your grave in ripe old age, like a sheaf gathered up in its season.

James' verdict:

Jas 5:10 - 11 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

- Picturing our restoration:
- 1 Pet 1:6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,
- 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,
- **9** obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**1 John 5:4** For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world— our faith.

Job had the victory!—his faith overcame the world.