



What Do You Do When You Have NOTHING BUT SORROW?

Job 29-30

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• All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

• God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.

• Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

A. Job's Response Continues - Chapter 29-30

Job Remembers Better Days:

1. I was once respected for who I was (29:1-11).

Job 29:1-3, NLT -¹ Job continued speaking: ² "I long for the years gone by when God took care of me, ³ when he lit up the way before me and I walked safely through the darkness."

Job 29:7, NLT -⁷ "Those were the days when I went to the city gate and took my place among the honored leaders."

2. I was once respected for what I did (29:12-25).

Job 29:16-18, NLT -¹⁶ I was a father to the poor and assisted strangers who needed help. ¹⁷ I broke the jaws of godless oppressors and plucked their victims from their teeth. ¹⁸ "I thought, 'Surely I will die surrounded by my family after a long, good life.'"

3. I am now despised and depressed (30:1-14).

"I have no respect" "I have no blessing" "I have no help"

"I have no future" "I have no ministry" "I have nothing"

4. I now have unending pain and unanswered prayers (30:15-31).

Job 30:28-31, NCV -³⁰ "My skin has become black and peels off, as my body burns with fever. ³¹ My harp is tuned to sing a sad song, and my flute is tuned to nothing but sorrow."

B. Job's Response Completed – Chapter 31

"If I have sinned, then I truly deserve all of this." - Job

1. If I have lusted, then give my wife to another man (31:1-12).
2. If I have mistreated others, then punish me (31:13-23).
3. If I have worshipped money or idols, then I caused all of this (31:24-28).
4. If I have concealed any sin, show me that I might repent (31:29-40).

C. Application – The Big Elephant in the Room

Source: This section is loosely adapted from an article by Pastor Andrew Brunson, "Be Faithful with No Regrets—10 Blessings from Standing Strong;" (DECISION, December 2022, p. 26ff)

What do you do when you *feel* you have "nothing but sorrow?"

1. **Get this right (review):** A. We find joy in the hope of Christ's coming. B. We must be patient in suffering. C. We must be faithful in prayer.
2. **Sorrow can bring us closer to Jesus.**
3. **Sorrow helps us pursue Jesus in total desperation.**
4. **Sorrows put your life on display for other believers and unbelievers.**
5. **Sorrows help's you build perseverance by sharing in His suffering.**
6. **Those who endure sufferings will be greatly rewarded.**
7. **Sorrows in life give God the chance to bring "good out of bad" for His glory and our good.**
8. **If you are in the very depths of sorrow, take a seat at the foot of the cross and pray.**

"The end of all things is near...be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray....do not be surprised at the fiery trial that has come upon you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed at the revelation of His glory."

- 1 Peter. 4:7, 12-13, Berean Literal Translation

