

Job Lays It "All on The Table"

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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.
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We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy.

James 5:11, NLT

A. Job, in his pain, lays "everything on the table" before God.

1. Job asked God, "Why are you doing this?"

Job 10:1–7, NLT -1 "I am disgusted with my life. Let me complain freely. My bitter soul must complain. 2 I will say to God, 'Don't simply condemn me— tell me the charge you are bringing against me. 3 What do you gain by oppressing me? Why do you reject me, the work of your own hands, while smiling on the schemes of the wicked? 4 Are your eyes like those of a human? Do you see things only as people see them? 5 Is your lifetime only as long as ours? Is your life so short 6 that you must quickly probe for my guilt and search for my sin? 7 Although you know I am not guilty, no one can rescue me from your hands."

2. Job then asked God, "I am your creation; why would You afflict me?"

Job 10:8–10, NLT -⁸ "You formed me with your hands; you made me, yet now you completely destroy me. ⁹ Remember that you made me from dust—will you turn me back to dust so soon? ¹⁰ You guided my conception and formed me in the womb."

- Man is like a **child**, conceived in the womb (v. 8).
- Man is like a vessel of **clay**, shaped by a potter (v. 9).
- Man is like a **cheese**, poured out by a cheesemaker (v. 10).
- Man is like a **garment**, woven by a weaver (v. 11).

Job 10:12, HCSB - ¹² You gave me <u>life</u> and faithful <u>love</u>, and Your care has guarded my life.

- Divine Beginnings (life)
- Divine Favor (faithful Love)
- Divine Visitation (God's care)

3. Finally, Job asked God, "Why don't you just leave me alone?"

Job 10:18–20, NCV - ¹⁸ "So why did you allow me to be born? I wish I had died before anyone saw me. ¹⁹ I wish I had never lived, but had been carried straight from birth to the grave. ²⁰ The few days of my life are almost over. <u>Leave me alone</u> so I can have a moment of joy.

- Job, in his immense pain, gets death totally wrong.
- The greater our struggles, the narrower and more incorrect we become about spiritual realities.

B. Choose Faith in the midst of struggles!

- 1. Choosing faith in the midst of suffering will not eliminate the pain.
- 2. Choosing faith in the midst of suffering will not stop the questions.
- 3. <u>Choosing faith</u> in the midst of suffering will not create a "logical" reason for your suffering.
- 4. Choosing faith in the midst of suffering WILL remind you that God is in sovereign.
- 5. Choosing faith in the midst of suffering will be a rare gift to God.
- 6. Choosing faith in the midst of suffering will bring you closer to God.

"Choose faith and see what God will do!" - Pastor Joe