

## Chapter 27

Good evening and thank you for joining us! Tonight, we're continuing our study in Job, and we're now in Job 27 so would you please turn in your Bibles there?

Hey and I just wanna say I'm proud of you for slugging along through this study! I know it's not easy but I pray you've been ministered to through it.

Last week we finished the final rounds of counsel from Job's 3 friends. We won't be hearing from those 3 anymore.

What we see tonight is Job presenting his final evidence of his innocence for his suffering-in response to his 3 friends' accusations.

Tonight, we're gonna study 5 chapters 27-31, and it's all a monologue-every bit of this is Job's words.

The title of tonight's message is **BLINDED BY PAIN**

1-4

1 Moreover Job continued his discourse, and said:

2 "As God lives, who has taken away my justice,  
And the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, (blaming God for causing him to be bitter)

3 As long as my breath is in me,  
And the breath of God in my nostrils,

4 My lips will not speak wickedness,

**Nor my tongue utter deceit.** Job won't lie. That's why he'll never say that his calamity was caused by his sin.

5-10

5 Far be it from me

That I should say you are right;

Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me.

6 My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go;

My heart shall not reproach me as long as I live.

7 "May my enemy be like the wicked,

And he who rises up against me like the unrighteous.

8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite,

Though he may gain much,

If God takes away his life?

9 Will God hear his cry

When trouble comes upon him?

10 Will he delight himself in the Almighty?

Will he always call on God?" Job says. I know the hopelessness of the hypocrite, and that's not me."

11 "I will teach you about the hand of God;

What is with the Almighty I will not conceal.

12 Surely all of you have seen it;

Why then do you behave with complete nonsense?" Eliphaz,

Bildad, and Zophar wanted to teach Job about God. But they're

the ones in need of the truth because God wasn't judging Job for a specific sin.

13 "This is the portion of a wicked man with God,

And the heritage of oppressors, received from the Almighty:

In this section, Job argues that judgment awaits the wicked and the wicked will not be ultimately blessed. This was an important argument for Job to make because his friends accused Job of believing otherwise.

14-23

14 If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword;  
And his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread.  
15 Those who survive him shall be buried in death,  
And their<sup>[fn]</sup> widows shall not weep,  
16 Though he heaps up silver like dust,  
And piles up clothing like clay—  
17 He may pile it up, but the just will wear it,  
And the innocent will divide the silver.  
18 He builds his house like a moth,<sup>[fn]</sup>  
Like a booth which a watchman makes.  
19 The rich man will lie down,  
But not be gathered up;<sup>[fn]</sup>  
He opens his eyes,  
And he is no more.  
20 Terrors overtake him like a flood;  
A tempest steals him away in the night.  
21 The east wind carries him away, and he is gone;  
It sweeps him out of his place.  
22 It hurls against him and does not spare;  
He flees desperately from its power.  
23 Men shall clap their hands at him,  
And shall hiss him out of his place.

Virtually every statement in verses 14 through 23 was first used by Bildad, Zophar, or Eliphaz to accuse Job. Now Job throws it back in their face

The Bible says whatever a man sows, that shall he reap **Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**

We see this principle throughout the Word from cover to cover...

Pharaoh ordered the drowning of baby boys that were born to the Jews. How did he die? He drowned.

When Adonibezek, king of the Canaanites, was captured, his thumbs and toes were cut off because he had done the same thing to his own captives.

Of course we just a couple months ago how Haman built gallows to hang Mordecai, only to die on the very gallows he built.

As you read the Word and observe life, you can't help but see that we do indeed sow what we reap.

Job's friends were harsh with Job. And now their own phrases are being used against them.

That is why Jesus said we are to be people who dispense mercy and grace to others...

**Luke 6:36 Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful. 37 "Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn**

not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” Good reminder for how we should treat others.

As Job continues his closing argument here in chapter 28, he gives us a geology lesson! But he’s building up to a point...

## Chapter 28

1-4

1 “Surely there is a mine for silver,  
And a place where gold is refined.

2 Iron is taken from the earth,  
And copper is smelted from ore.

3 Man puts an end to darkness,  
And searches every recess  
For ore in the darkness and the shadow of death.

4 He breaks open a shaft away from people;  
In places forgotten by feet

They hang far away from men;

They swing to and fro. Silver, gold, and copper are all precious commodities - but they don’t just fall into our lap. We have to go get them, we have to dig deep

Have you noticed oftentimes life isn’t always what it seems- sometimes we have to dig a little deeper to understand what’s truly going on?

5 As for the earth, from it comes bread,

But underneath it is turned up as by fire; A field of wheat seems harmless, but dig below the dirt deep enough - and you'll find a boiling molten fire brewing in the center of the earth.

6-7

6 Its stones are the source of sapphires,  
And it contains gold dust.

7 That path no bird knows,

Nor has the falcon's eye seen it. Even a falcon with a bird's eye view can't see the riches below the surface of the earth.

8-11

8 The proud lions have not trodden it,  
Nor has the fierce lion passed over it.

9 He puts his hand on the flint;

He overturns the mountains at the roots.

10 He cuts out channels in the rocks,  
And his eye sees every precious thing.

11 He dams up the streams from trickling;

What is hidden he brings forth to light. Job here explained how hard men are willing to work to gain the treasure and wealth that are hidden in the earth.

12 "But where can wisdom be found?

And where is the place of understanding? So you see the picture that Job is painting. Men search hard and are willing to endure danger for the sake of the riches of this earth. But that's easy compared to the search for wisdom.

13-19

13 Man does not know its value,

Nor is it found in the land of the living. ”

14 The deep says, ‘It is not in me’;

And the sea says, ‘It is not with me.’

15 It cannot be purchased for gold,

Nor can silver be weighed for its price.

16 It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir,

In precious onyx or sapphire.

17 Neither gold nor crystal can equal it,

Nor can it be exchanged for jewelry of fine gold.

18 No mention shall be made of coral or quartz,

For the price of wisdom is above rubies.

19 The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it,

Nor can it be valued in pure gold. Wisdom is more valuable than any stone that can be uncovered in the earth.

20-22

20 “From where then does wisdom come?

And where is the place of understanding?

21 It is hidden from the eyes of all living,

And concealed from the birds of the air.

22 Destruction and Death say,

‘We have heard a report about it with our ears.’

Since we’re talking about wisdom so much, now’s a good time to mention the difference between knowledge and wisdom.

Knowledge is the accumulation of facts. Wisdom is the ability to use those facts for our good and God’s glory.

We can learn knowledge from many different sources. But true wisdom only comes from God.

23-25

23 God understands its way,  
And He knows its place.  
24 For He looks to the ends of the earth,  
And sees under the whole heavens,  
25 To establish a weight for the wind,  
And apportion the waters by measure. God isn't limited to a  
superficial view. He sees below the surface the realities of life.

26-28

26 When He made a law for the rain,  
And a path for the thunderbolt,  
27 Then He saw wisdom<sup>[fn]</sup> and declared it;  
He prepared it, indeed, He searched it out.  
28 And to man He said,  
'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom,  
And to depart from evil is understanding.' ” After referring  
extensively to mining the earth for gems and jewels, Job ponders  
how to discover the gems and jewels of wisdom.

He concludes in v28 that the way to get wisdom to listen to what  
the Lord declares. This is what Solomon said **Proverbs 9:10 “The  
fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,  
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.**

We just saw this past Sunday that all the treasures of wisdom and  
knowledge are found in Jesus **Colossians 2:3 in whom are hidden  
all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**



Everything we need to know about how to get through the rest of this day and tomorrow will be found in God. In talking to Him, in walking with Him, and in being in awe of Him.

If we don't fear the Lord, we'll fear everything else. But if we fear Him, we'll have nothing else to fear.

Chapter 29 Job's looking back and recalling God's past blessings...what his life used to be like.

1 Job further continued his discourse, and said:

2 "Oh, that I were as in months past,  
As in the days when God watched over me; The implication is that God no longer watches over him, that God has rejected and neglected Job.

3-5

3 When His lamp shone upon my head,  
And when by His light I walked through darkness;  
4 Just as I was in the days of my prime,  
When the friendly counsel of God was over my tent;

5 When the Almighty was yet with me,  
When my children were around me; There's emotion in these memories. I'm certain Job recounted these days with tears. He's thinking back on kids that are now dead.

6-7

6 When my steps were bathed with cream,[fn]  
And the rock poured out rivers of oil for me!  
7 “When I went out to the gate by the city,  
When I took my seat in the open square, Job was one of the city  
elders-a leader.

8-13

8 The young men saw me and hid,  
And the aged arose and stood;  
9 The princes refrained from talking,  
And put their hand on their mouth;  
10 The voice of nobles was hushed,  
And their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth. Here's another  
expression that originates in Scripture.

11 When the ear heard, then it blessed me,  
And when the eye saw, then it approved me;  
12 Because I delivered the poor who cried out,  
The fatherless and the one who had no helper.  
13 The blessing of a perishing man came upon me,  
And I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. And here's why  
Job was so respected. He was a good ruler- did what was right.

Verse 14-25 sum up Job's career

14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me;  
My justice was like a robe and a turban.  
15 I was eyes to the blind,  
And I was feet to the lame.  
16 I was a father to the poor,  
And I searched out the case that I did not know.

17 I broke the fangs of the wicked,  
And plucked the victim from his teeth.

18 “Then I said, ‘I shall die in my nest,  
And multiply my days as the sand.

19 My root is spread out to the waters,  
And the dew lies all night on my branch.

20 My glory is fresh within me,  
And my bow is renewed in my hand.’

21 “Men listened to me and waited,  
And kept silence for my counsel.

22 After my words they did not speak again,  
And my speech settled on them as dew.

23 They waited for me as for the rain,  
And they opened their mouth wide as for the spring rain.

24 If I mocked at them, they did not believe it,  
And the light of my countenance they did not cast down.

25 I chose the way for them, and sat as chief;  
So I dwelt as a king in the army,  
As one who comforts mourners. But that was then...

## Chapter 30

1 “But now they mock at me, men younger than I,  
Whose fathers I disdained to put with the dogs of my flock. Kids of  
wicked men that Job gave righteous verdicts to now have their  
kids mock him.

In verses 2-8 he describes the worthless men who make fun of  
him.

2 Indeed, what profit is the strength of their hands to me?  
Their vigor has perished.

3 They are gaunt from want and famine,  
Fleeing late to the wilderness, desolate and waste,

4 Who pluck mallow by the bushes,  
And broom tree roots for their food.

5 They were driven out from among men,  
They shouted at them as at a thief.

6 They had to live in the clefts of the valleys,  
In caves of the earth and the rocks.

7 Among the bushes they brayed,  
Under the nettles they nestled.

8 They were sons of fools,  
Yes, sons of vile men;  
They were scourged from the land.

9 “And now I am their taunting song;  
Yes, I am their byword. Job’s the brunt of their jokes

10-15

10 They abhor me, they keep far from me;  
They do not hesitate to spit in my face.

11 Because He has loosed my[fn] bowstring and afflicted me,  
They have cast off restraint before me.

12 At my right hand the rabble arises;  
They push away my feet,  
And they raise against me their ways of destruction.

13 They break up my path,  
They promote my calamity;  
They have no helper.

14 They come as broad breakers;  
Under the ruinous storm they roll along.

15 Terrors are turned upon me;  
They pursue my honor as the wind,  
And my prosperity has passed like a cloud. Job's better days are long gone-they passed like a cloud-like morning fog that dissipates.

16-19

16 "And now my soul is poured out because of my plight;  
The days of affliction take hold of me.

17 My bones are pierced in me at night,  
And my gnawing pains take no rest.

18 By great force my garment is disfigured;  
It binds me about as the collar of my coat.

19 He has cast me into the mire,  
And I have become like dust and ashes. Job accuses God of grabbing him by the shirt and throwing him out of his own house into the mire

20 "I cry out to You, but You do not answer me;  
I stand up, and You regard me. Job has poured out his heart – while God has been stone silent.

The 2nd half of this verse is troublesome-I don't know what it means

21-23

21 But You have become cruel to me;  
With the strength of Your hand You oppose me.

22 You lift me up to the wind and cause me to ride on it;

You spoil my success.(my?)

23 For I know that You will bring me to death,

And to the house appointed for all living. Job accuses the gracious God in heaven of cruelty. He's calling God a murderer.

As we've said, "In asking why Job loses his way."

Pain has a peculiar way of distorting our perspective – even our theology. Job's severe pain is starting to color his perspective.

24-26

24 "Surely He would not stretch out His hand against a heap of ruins,

If they cry out when He destroys it.

25 Have I not wept for him who was in trouble?

Has not my soul grieved for the poor?

26 But when I looked for good, evil came to me;

And when I waited for light, then came darkness." Job's crying out-God has let me down.

27-30

27 My heart is in turmoil and cannot rest;

Days of affliction confront me.

28 I go about mourning, but not in the sun;

I stand up in the assembly and cry out for help.

29 I am a brother of jackals,

And a companion of ostriches.

30 My skin grows black and falls from me;

My bones burn with fever. Disease has racked his physical body.

He's not only dealing with the emotional turmoil, but physical as well.

31 My harp is turned to mourning,  
And my flute to the voice of those who weep. Chapter 31 is the end of Job's monologue as he for the final time declares his innocence. But don't make the mistake of glossing over these words, for there are important lessons here!

## Chapter 31

1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes;  
Why then should I look upon a young woman? Here Job becomes a great example for every one here tonight.

It's wisely been said that "sexual sin begins in the head long before he ends up in the bed."

The key to resisting temptation is controlling your thoughts – and the gateway to the mind is the eyes. We've got to establish boundaries and disciplines for our eyes.

2-8

2 For what is the allotment of God from above,  
And the inheritance of the Almighty from on high?

3 Is it not destruction for the wicked,  
And disaster for the workers of iniquity?

4 Does He not see my ways,  
And count all my steps?

5 "If I have walked with falsehood,  
Or if my foot has hastened to deceit,

6 Let me be weighed on honest scales,

That God may know my integrity.

7 If my step has turned from the way,

Or my heart walked after my eyes,

Or if any spot adheres to my hands,

8 Then let me sow, and another eat;

Yes, let my harvest be rooted out. Job is saying, “If I’ve sinned in anyway let me reap the consequences.”

Job taking a personal inventory of his heart. He’s going to go through his personal life, social life, and business life – if there’s a sin he’s forgotten or overlooked he’ll dig it up and take responsibility.

9-12

9 “If my heart has been enticed by a woman,

Or if I have lurked at my neighbor’s door,

10 Then let my wife grind for another,

And let others bow down over her.

11 For that would be wickedness;

Yes, it would be iniquity deserving of judgment.

12 For that would be a fire that consumes to destruction,

And would root out all my increase. Job is saying he’s never been unfaithful to his wife.

13-15

13 “If I have despised the cause of my male or female servant  
When they complained against me,

14 What then shall I do when God rises up?

When He punishes, how shall I answer Him?

15 Did not He who made me in the womb make them?



Did not the same One fashion us in the womb? Verses 13 through 15 speak about the misuse of authority, of feeling superior to others, a charge of which Job claimed innocence.

The bible tells us we are to esteem every man better than ourselves. **Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.**

16-20

16 "If I have kept the poor from their desire,  
Or caused the eyes of the widow to fail,  
17 Or eaten my morsel by myself,  
So that the fatherless could not eat of it  
18 (But from my youth I reared him as a father,  
And from my mother's womb I guided the widow[fn]);  
19 If I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing,  
Or any poor man without covering;  
20 If his heart[fn] has not blessed me,  
And if he was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep; Job was a  
generous man, willing to help others.

21-23

21 If I have raised my hand against the fatherless,  
When I saw I had help in the gate;  
22 Then let my arm fall from my shoulder,  
Let my arm be torn from the socket.  
23 For destruction from God is a terror to me,

And because of His magnificence I cannot endure. Job is so confident of his innocence he's willing to have his arm torn from his socket.

In verses 24-28 Job maintains his innocence regarding greed and idolatry.

24 "If I have made gold my hope,  
Or said to fine gold, 'You are my confidence';  
25 If I have rejoiced because my wealth was great,  
And because my hand had gained much;  
26 If I have observed the sun[fn] when it shines,  
Or the moon moving in brightness,  
27 So that my heart has been secretly enticed,  
And my mouth has kissed my hand;  
28 This also would be an iniquity deserving of judgment,  
For I would have denied God who is above. Despite what his friends accused him of, Job was not driven by greediness.

Job now speaks of his lack of vindictiveness  
29-33

29 "If I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me,  
Or lifted myself up when evil found him  
30 (Indeed I have not allowed my mouth to sin  
By asking for a curse on his soul);  
31 If the men of my tent have not said,  
'Who is there that has not been satisfied with his meat?'  
32 (But no sojourner had to lodge in the street,  
For I have opened my doors to the traveler[fn]);  
33 If I have covered my transgressions as Adam,

By hiding my iniquity in my bosom, Job was hospitable, and he wasn't a hypocrite.

34-35

34 Because I feared the great multitude,  
And dreaded the contempt of families,  
So that I kept silence

And did not go out of the door—

35 Oh, that I had one to hear me!

Here is my mark.

Oh, that the Almighty would answer me,

That my Prosecutor had written a book! Job wants to know why his calamity has come upon him despite being a righteous man. He wants a reason, he demands an explanation – and he wants it written down by God.

36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder,  
And bind it on me like a crown; At this point if Job got his explanation he'd be so elated he'd treat it like a trophy.

37-40

37 I would declare to Him the number of my steps;  
Like a prince I would approach Him.

38 “If my land cries out against me,  
And its furrows weep together;

39 If I have eaten its fruit<sup>[fn]</sup> without money,  
Or caused its owners to lose their lives;

40 Then let thistles grow instead of wheat,  
And weeds instead of barley.”

The words of Job are ended.“

Job won't speak again until he's met by the Lord. But before the Lord shows up, another guy appears. His name is Elihu...

Job wanted it written down-little does he know the countless scores of people ministered to by this book.