

promise to double our possessions as He did for Job. He does not even promise that he will exalt us in this life. In the verse we just read (1Peter 5:6), God said He will exalt the humble in due time. God knows the right time, and we must leave that up to Him.

- a) God caused Job's family and friends to visit him (v.11). They each grieved with him and comforted him. Each gave him a piece of money and a golden earring.
- b) God blessed Job's latter end more than is beginning (v.12). God gave him multitudes of animals.
- c) God caused his wife to bear him ten more children (v.13). God even caused his daughters to be the most beautiful women in the land (v.15).

5) God clearly exalted Job! **That is just the way God is!**

### c. **God lengthened Job's days (v.16-17)**

- 1) Job lived another 140 years. We have no way of knowing how old Job was when his suffering began. We do know that he was old enough that even the oldest people respected him.
- 2) God allowed him to live to see his great grandsons.

**Conclusion:** We have learned several truths from the Book of Job. God delights in those who live for His glory, as Job did before his suffering. Satan cannot touch us without God's permission. Suffering may not be caused by our sin, but if we do not think right, suffering may tempt us to sin. God is all-knowing, all-wise, and all-powerful and always does what is for our good and for His glory. There are no accidents with God. Finally, God promises to exalt the humble. If we will trust His sovereignty and remain humbly submissive to him during trials, He will lift us up in due time. **You can count on it.**

**Song:** Great is Thy Faithfulness, **40**

# God Exalts the Humble

26 June 2022 PM - Job 42 - Job2022 - Scott Childs

**Introduction:** In the horse and buggy days, a man was driving with his wife along a dangerous road. At a very narrow place, the wife became frightened and seized the rein nearest to her. Her husband quickly passed her the other rein and let go. Then more frightened than ever she said, "Oh, don't you let go!" He answered, "Two people cannot drive one horse; either I must drive or you must." Then she gave him the reins and he drove safely past the danger.

During Job's journey of sorrow, he, like that wife, wanted to help God guide his "buggy". It was not until he let go of the reins, that God was able to bring him through and bless him.

**Transition:** As we conclude this book, I want us to see how God responded when Job surrendered and humbled himself. Take note, because God will do the same for you and me.

## 1. **Job Humbled Himself before God (v.1-6)**

### a. **Job acknowledged God's sovereignty (v.1-2)**

- 1) He admitted that God was able to do **all**.
- 2) He also admitted no *thought* (i.e., mischievous or evil plan) can be *withholden* (i.e., fenced off) from God. He had secretly thought that he knew better than God regarding his suffering.
- 3) *When I was young on the farm, we frequently fenced off fields and areas that we did not want the cows to go. That works for cows, but it never works with God. You cannot fence God out of an area of your life.*
- 4) The Bible abounds with examples of people who foolishly thought they could hide from God. Achan thought he could hide his theft. David thought he could hide his adultery. Jonah thought he could hide his escape. Jezebel thought her evil would escape God's judgment. Peter thought he could hide his denial of Christ. Ananias and Sapphira thought they could hide their dishonesty.
- 5) Until we have gained experiential knowledge that God's power is unlimited and that no fences that we build

around our evil plans can block God's view, we will not prosper. Job learned this the hard way. Sadly, we usually have to learn it the hard way too.

- 6) The sooner that we acknowledge God's sovereignty and our foolishness; the sooner we will experience His blessing.

### b. Job admitted that God was right (v.3-5)

- 1) In verse 3, Job quoted God's rebuke to him from (Job 38:2). "*Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*"
- 2) Thomas Constable notes, "By quoting God's first question back to him (v. 3a; 38:2) Job meant, 'You were exactly right in saying, 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge.' That is just what I have been doing.' He admitted having spoken presumptuously (v. 3b-c)."
- 3) Verse 4, sounds like Job is being disrespectful to God. However, he is actually quoting another of God's rebukes to him from (Job 38:3). "*Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.*"
- 4) Constable again adds, "He also repeated what God had said when He began each of His speeches (v. 4; 38:3; 40:7). God had asked for Job's reply. Now Job gave it. However, it was not the courtroom accusation he had said he wanted to deliver to God. It was instead a confession of his own folly."
- 5) Job now had a much clearer understanding of God (v.5). He saw that God, being Sovereign of all, has the right to do as He sees best in every situation. He understood that God's choices are always right, even when humans cannot understand them.

### c. Job humbly repented (v.6)

- 1) Job said that he *abhorred* himself (v.6). Interestingly, the root of this word means to melt or dissolve. Though he had firmly believed that God was mistreating him, his firmness now melted under the heat of God's questions.
  - a) How many of you have seen photos of the beautiful ice sculptures created in Japan? They are amazing.

However, when warm weather came, every one melted into puddles.

- b) That is what happened to Job's pride. When God turned up the heat on Job. His rebellious pride and arrogance melted away.

- 2) Job *repented* in dust and ashes. The word used here literally means that he was sorry for his actions. He did not repent any sin that led to his suffering. Instead, he repented of his bad attitude toward God because of his suffering.
- 3) One of the greatest qualities that God is looking for in our lives is humility. So often, we are tempted to think that we know better than God. Oh, we might not say it outright, but our disobedience to what we know God wants shows it. Peter's words are convicting. (1 Peter 5:6) "*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.*"

## 2. God Exalted Job (v.7-17)

### a. God rebuked Job's ungodly friends (v.7-9)

- 1) God rebuked Eliphaz (probably the eldest) and his two friends (v.7).
- 2) God demanded that they sacrifice for their sins (v.8-9).

### b. God prospered Job (v.10-15)

- 1) Job prayed for his unkind friends and God forgave them (v.10).
- 2) God then exalted Job by giving him twice as much as he had before his suffering (v.10). **Exalting the humble is part of God's character.** God cannot stand rivalry, but he delights to exalt those who submissively humble themselves before Him. That is awesome!
- 3) We each struggle with pride to one degree or another. How did God melt Job? He melted him by revealing His sovereign understanding, control and power. **The greater God is in our eyes and in our hearts, the more humble we will become.** Make it your passion to get to know God better. Think about His greatness!
- 4) Though God promises to exalt the humble, He does not