

Survey of Job

- The fall of Job (1-2)
- Job wishes he had never been born (3)
- Job and his friends discuss the situation (4-31)
 - Throughout the discussion, Job's friends tell him he has sinned
 - Eliphaz (4:7-9; 15:5-6, 20; 22:5-11)
 - Bildad (8:3-6; 18:5, 21; 25:4-6)
 - Zophar (11:2-6; 20:4-5)
 - Job maintains that he had not sinned (6:24-30; 9:17, 20-23; 10:14-15; 13:4-5; 19:2-4; 27:6)
 - Job accuses God and questions his justice (6:4; 7:20-21; 9:13-24; 16:6-17; 19:7; 24:1; 27:2-6; 29:2-5)
 - Job knows that his redeemer lives (19:25-27)
- The insight of Elihu (32-37)
 - Job and his friends were wrong (32:2-3)
 - Job was wrong to place himself above God (33:8-12)
 - Contrary to Job's accusations, God is just (34:5-12)
 - God must be extolled, not condemned (36:24; 37)
- God challenges Job (38-41)
 - Does Job have the same relationship with creation that God does? (38-39)
 - Job cannot answer (40:1-5)
 - Does Job have the power of the Lord? (40:6-14)
 - Where does Job stand before God's mighty creations? (39:15-41:34)
- Job repents, God rebukes his friends, and the Lord restores Job's fortunes (42)

Application

- We must know where we stand in the created order (cf. 1 Corinthians 11:3)
- How often are we guilty of accusing God?
 - "God, why are you doing this to me?"
 - "I don't deserve this, Lord! Why are these things happening?"
 - How often do we "utter what I did not understand"? (Job 42:3)
- Job teaches us some things about suffering
 - We are ignorant of what is going on "behind the scenes"
 - When we suffer, it is not necessarily because we have sinned
 - We sometimes suffer because our God is confident in us
 - In all things—including suffering—God is to be given glory (cf. 1 Peter 4:16)