

and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2Timothy 3:15

Store In My Heart

Romans 8:37

But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

The Apostle Paul was certainly one who understood hardship and difficulty firsthand. Many times during his journeys he was attacked, beaten or run off. Several times brethren hid him until he could get away so that he would not be killed. He is the one who penned this inspired passage.

What a comfort we can have in knowing that no matter what we face we can be victorious through Christ, our Lord. Our burdens need not weigh us down. We can walk with confidence in our ultimate victory if we belong to God. The world may fail us in time of need, but God is always present.

Yet let us not forget that our greatest victory in Christ is over the sin that continually besets us in our walk through life.



Lessons From Job

Johnny Ramsey

One of the richest sections of Holy Scripture is the fabulous treatise on human suffering known as the book of Job. This neglected book's emphasis is the patience of God and the endurance of its titled character (**James 5:11**). There are at least ten major passages in Job that project lessons we all need to learn. Let me share with you several outstanding points of the book, with applications.

Satan's Energetic Work

Even though Jehovah surrounds us with His infinite love, the devil tries to overwhelm us. Due to the frailty of our humanity, the great enemy of our soul often is victorious. As Jesus stated in **Luke 22:31**, Satan does indeed desire to capture us, but we must not give him opportunity: "*Neither give place to the devil*" (**Ephesians 4:27**). In his unmitigated gall, Satan even confronted God (Job 1). If the restless adversary (**1Peter 5:8**) did not fear to tempt Jesus face to face (**Matthew 4**), we may be forever sure that he will confront us, also!

We Must Be Humble Before Our Maker

One of the unique features of this quaint book is the struggle within Job himself. At times, this treatise reminds us of Paul's personal battle, as recorded in **Romans 7**. There are mountain peaks of devotion and deep valleys of despair in the life of Job. Moments of doubt and depression blend with grand vows of faith. In **Job 1:21** and **13:15**, then, finally, in **Job 42:5,6**, we thrill to the ardent conviction of one of God's great heroes. Job admitted that he brought nothing into this world and would take nothing out. And even if God would slay him, yet Job would trust the Almighty. In the last chapter, Job had learned that God's will shall be done, whether we do it or not!

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Joyce Venable has an iron deficiency that is currently being treated.

Bill and Joyce Venable are in isolation after covid exposure last week. Bill has been tested and is waiting on results.

John Jackson is working today. Paula Laubach is also working today.

Please include our daughter, Ruth, in your prayers as she is in her last month of pregnancy.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

The Short-Lived Prosperity Of The Wicked

Job 20:4-9 reveals how shallow and brief are the wages of sin! When we contrast this passage with **Psalm 119:67-71**, we plainly see the value of suffering, if we let such tribulation make us spiritual. A great commentary on this thought is found in **Luke 16:19-31** and **Matthew 6:19-21**. Job's days were "*swifter than a weaver's shuttle*" and would "*soon flee away*" (**Job 7:6; 9:25**). But he could look forward to an enduring reward.

The Light Christ Sheds On The Old Testament

We have often said that the Old Testament concealed and the New Testament revealed. Job graphically illustrates this principle. In Job 9:33 we read of the longing and need for a mediator, or advocate, to plead that ancient patriarch's case. Yes, someone between God and man to assist Job in his pitiable plight. That man's wife, three best friends and a young, self-appointed prophet only added additional sorrow to his life. How lonely was Job without a daysman to make intercession! But today, Christians do have what Job longed for: "*For there is one God, one mediator also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus...If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous*" (**1Timothy 2:5; 1 John 2:1**).

A Yearning View Of The Future

Job 3:17 definitely belongs in the hall of fame of beautiful verses: "*There the wicked cease from troubling; And there the weary are at rest.*" In the midst of intense pain and bitter tears of loneliness the man of God expresses his longing. He knew that His Redeemer was alive and would bless all men in "*the last days*" (**Job 19:25; Acts 2:16,17**). Just as "*Jehovah blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning*" (**Job 42:12**), so shall God's tomorrow be brighter than today for all the faithful.

Jesus answered the longing cry of **Job 14:14**, "*If a man die shall he live again?*" The only real suffering will belong to those who so live as to miss the victory over death which Christ provides! Thanks be unto God for the victory He provides: "*But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*" (**1Corinthians 15:57**).

(Maybe this article will help us look at the book of Job with newfound interest. We often consider this book only when we have sorrow or loss, but brother Ramsey reminds us that there are many other lessons to learn from this chronicle of Job's troubles. This is sometimes the case with many of the Old Testament books since we most often learn of them only through the stories they tell. I know I have gained a fresh perspective on several of the stories we have studied in the book of Judges these last few months. There are always lessons to learn from God's Word. Keep up the study. DLH)

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

