

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

UPCOMING CLASS SCHEDULE:

NO CLASSES:

Dec. 24-25 *Christmas*

Dec. 31-Jan. 1 *New Year*

Jan. 7-8 *Mission’s Conference*

RESUME CLASS:

Jan. 14-15

THIS WEEK’S STUDY:

Chapters 26-31 – Job’s Final Discourse

- **Chapter 26 - Man’s Frailty/God’s Majesty**
- **Chapter 27 - Job Maintains his Integrity**
- **Chapter 28 – Discourse on Wisdom**

Chapter 29 –31 “I Rest My Case”

- **Chapter 29 – Reminiscing/Remember Former Times**
- **Chapter 30 – “But Now”!**
- **Chapter 31 – Job Builds His Case – “If I have”....Then Let God”!**

JOB 29:2 - Charles Haddon Spurgeon :: Morning and Evening –August 11 — Morning Reading - "Oh that I were as in months past." Job 29:2

Numbers of Christians can view the past with pleasure, but regard the present with dissatisfaction; they look back upon the days which they have passed in communing with the Lord as being the sweetest and the best they have ever known, but as to the present, it is clad in a sable garb of gloom and dreariness. Once they lived near to Jesus, but now they feel that they have wandered from him, and they say, "O that I were as in months past!" They complain that they have lost their evidences, or that they have not present peace of mind, or that they have no enjoyment in the means of grace, or that conscience is not so tender, or that they have not so much zeal for God's glory. The causes of this mournful state of things are manifold. It may arise through a comparative neglect of prayer, for a neglected closet is the beginning of all spiritual decline. Or it may be the result of idolatry. The heart has been occupied with something else, more than with God; the affections have been set on the things of earth, instead of the things of heaven. A jealous God will not be content with a divided heart; he must be loved first and best. He will withdraw the sunshine of his presence from a cold, wandering heart. Or the cause may be found in self-confidence and self-righteousness. Pride is busy in the heart, and self is exalted instead of lying low at the foot of the cross. Christian, if you are not now as you "were in months past," do not rest satisfied with wishing for a return of former happiness, but go at once to seek your Master, and tell him your sad state. Ask his grace and strength to help you to walk more closely with him; humble yourself before him, and he will lift you up, and give you yet again to enjoy the light of his countenance. Do not sit down to sigh and lament; while the beloved Physician lives there is hope, nay there is a certainty of recovery for the worst cases.

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Chapters 26-30 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty;

Job 26:1 But Job answered and said:

Job 26:2 "How have you helped him who is without power? How have you saved the arm that has no strength?

Job 26:3 How have you counseled one who has no wisdom? And how have you declared sound advice to many?

Job 26:4 To whom have you uttered words? And whose spirit came from you?

God’s Majesty

Job 26:5 "The dead tremble, Those under the waters and those inhabiting them.

Job 26:6 Sheol is naked before Him, And Destruction has no covering.

Job 26:7 He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.

Job 26:8 He binds up the water in His thick clouds, Yet the clouds are not broken under it.

Job 26:9 He covers the face of His throne, And spreads His cloud over it.

Job 26:10 He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, At the boundary of light and darkness.

Job 26:11 The pillars of heaven tremble, And are astonished at His rebuke.

Job 26:12 He stirs up the sea with His power, And by His understanding He breaks up the storm.

Job 26:13 By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent.

Job 26:14 Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?"

Job Maintains His Integrity;

Job 27:1 Moreover Job continued his discourse, and said:

Job 27:2 "As God lives, who has taken away my justice, And the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, (Job is not right, here)

Job 27:3 As long as my breath is in me, And the breath of God in my nostrils,

Job 27:4 My lips will not speak wickedness, Nor my tongue utter deceit.

Job 27:5 Far be it from me That I should say you are right; Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me.

Job 27:6 My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; My heart shall not reproach me as long as I live.

26 - vs.1-2 But Job answered and said: Job first responds to Bildad and then will speak for six chapters on wisdom and a final defense. *How have you helped him who is without power?* Job considered all the wisdom from his three “friends” wondering where the help or strength was in any of it, who were so concerned about being right they didn’t help Job at all! vs.3-4 How have you counseled one who has no wisdom? Job’s broad statements included not only himself, but also anyone else that his friends failed to help. *To whom have you uttered words?* What about others who else had been damaged by the insensitivity and wrongfully applied wisdom of his friends. *Whose spirit came from you?* In the very first speech, Eliphaz said that a mysterious spirit and revealed to him his principles. There was nothing remarkable in what he had said that would show that he had been indebted for it either to God or to the wise and good on earth. It seemed satanically inspired to bring Job to curse God.

vs. 5-14 The dead tremble, those under the waters and those inhabiting them: Job, describing the power of God, says there is no place hidden from God. Everything, even the dead and the depths of the sea is naked before Him. *He hangs the earth on nothing:* Job understood this, thousands of years before Newton would discover gravity. The ancients thought the earth was held up on the backs of elephants or giant turtles. *He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, at the boundary of light and darkness:* What an awesome God! He spreads out the heavens over empty space, hangs the earth on nothing, and fills the clouds with water without their bursting! *The pillars of heaven tremble:* “Those mountains which seem to reach and support the heavens, tremble in an earthquake. *He stirs up the sea with His power:* Job knew the mighty power of storms and stirred up seas was from. *His hand pierced the fleeing serpent:* A reference to an ancient serpent defeated by God, demonstrating His great strength, and identifies this serpent, Rahab, meaning proud one. *Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways... But the thunder of His power who can understand?* Job’s description of God’s power is amazing and impressive, but Job knew that he could not possibly fully describe God.

vs. 1-6 Job continues...*As God lives, who has taken away my justice:* In the previous chapter Job praised the power of God, but he also recognized that he needed something more than the might of God. He needed rescue from the one who has made my soul bitter. *My lips will not speak wickedness:* In his bold and plain speaking to this point before his God and his friends, one might think that Job had spoken wickedness. Yet Job did not think that he had, and he insisted that he would not.

vs.1-2 Again, we are reminded of the helping as opposed to over focusing on theology and legalism in offering comfort to those who are really suffering. Always truth with love!

vs.3-4 We must be extremely cautious in not receiving and acting on spiritual input, which is not from the Holy Spirit, thereby misrepresenting God and hurting rather than helping!

vs. 5-14 We need to remember, like Job, that although we may know a lot about God, there is far more than we know and understand! We are just scratching the surface of knowing about God’s power. Creation witnesses to the power of God! Once a person knows there is God because of creation, that person then moves to the Word of God! Jesus is that great Revelation of God!

vs. 1-6 What tremendous statements from Job! He will not back down to the continued charges from his friends that sin in Job’s life is the reason for his suffering. Job must indeed have a clear and clean conscience and faith to maintain his integrity in such circumstances. What an example for us!

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

*Job 27:7 "May my enemy be like the wicked, And he who rises up against me like the unrighteous.
Job 27:8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite, Though he may gain much, If God takes away his life?
Job 27:9 Will God hear his cry When trouble comes upon him?
Job 27:10 Will he delight himself in the Almighty? Will he always call on God?
Job 27:11 "I will teach you about the hand of God; What is with the Almighty I will not conceal.
Job 27:12 Surely all of you have seen it; Why then do you behave with complete nonsense?
Job 27:13 "This is the portion of a wicked man with God, And the heritage of oppressors, received from the Almighty:
Job 27:14 If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword; And his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread.
Job 27:15 Those who survive him shall be buried in death, And their widows shall not weep,
Job 27:16 Though he heaps up silver like dust, And piles up clothing like clay—
Job 27:17 He may pile it up, but the just will wear it, And the innocent will divide the silver.
Job 27:18 He builds his house like a moth, Like a booth which a watchman makes.
Job 27:19 The rich man will lie down, But not be gathered up; He opens his eyes, And he is no more.
Job 27:20 Terrors overtake him like a flood; A tempest steals him away in the night.
Job 27:21 The east wind carries him away, and he is gone; It sweeps him out of his place.
Job 27:22 It hurls against him and does not spare; He flees desperately from its power.
Job 27:23 Men shall clap their hands at him, And shall hiss him out of his place.*

Job’s Discourse on Wisdom;

*Job 28:1 "Surely there is a mine for silver, And a place where gold is refined.
Job 28:2 Iron is taken from the earth, And copper is smelted from ore.
Job 28:3 Man puts an end to darkness, And searches every recess For ore in the darkness and the shadow of death.*

vs. 7-10 May my enemy be like the wicked: In strong terms, Job is asking for the same punishment his friends think he deserves to be put upon their own heads, because of their false accusations. *For what is the hope of the hypocrite:* Job was accused by his friends of being a hypocrite; of clinging to hidden sin instead of confessing and repenting. *Will God hear his cry . . .* Job agreed that the hope of the hypocrite was vain. Job was in a difficult situation before his friends. He agreed that God did not hear the cry of the hypocrite, but he had to endure his own season of silence from God. Job could comfort himself in knowing that he did call on God as a hypocrite would not.

vs. 11-12 I will teach you about the hand of God: Job was deeply frustrated at the lack of understanding from his friends, who knew certain principles about God and His way in the world, but they continually misapplied those principles to Job’s situation. *Why then do you behave with complete nonsense?* Job’s friends claimed to know God and his ways, yet they analyzed Job’s crisis in a nonsensical way.

vs. 13-23 This is the portion of the wicked man with God: In this section Job argued strongly as any of his three friends that judgment awaits the wicked man, and that ultimately, he will not be blessed. This was an important argument for Job to make in front of his friends, because they accused him of overturning God’s moral order in the world. Job agrees, in general, with the idea that wickedness is rewarded with judgment from God. *If his children are multiplied, it is for the sword . . . Terrors overtake him like a flood . . . The east wind carries him away . . . Men shall clap their hands at him:* This description of the bitter portion of the wicked man includes many aspects that applied to Job and his own crisis. This however, should not be taken as an admission of guilt, but rather Job’s idea was that I know that my situation looks like the judgment of God on the wicked, yet I assure you that I know, it is not!

Chapter 28 vs. 1-4 Surely there is a mine for silver: Job considered the way men search for precious and useful metals, such as silver, gold, iron, and copper. *Searches every recess:* Job explained how men diligently sought after these precious and useful metals. They light up dark places (*Man puts an end to darkness*), they search every recess, they dig to break open a shaft away from people, and even personally endanger themselves (*they hang far away from men; they swing to and fro*).

vs. 7-12 This is another excellent example for us when enemies continually refuse to put themselves in our shoes, falsely accusing us. We need to do what Job does. He cries out to God and lets Him take care of his enemies! Deu 19:18-19 And the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, if the witness is a false witness, who has testified falsely against his brother, [19] then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother; so you shall put away the evil from among you.

vs. 13-23 Back in chapter 21, Job mentioned exceptions to the rule that in this lifetime the wicked do prosper and some for their whole life time. Here he speaks generally of the portion of a wicked man with God, which results in an unfulfilled life and certain eventual judgment for wickedness.

Chapter 28 vs. 1-11 Job lays out the efforts, risks and dangers that men will go to in order to obtain physical riches as opposed to the usual minimal efforts they spend on seeking the spiritual riches from God. How about us, how much effort and importance do we spend for the everlasting spiritual riches?

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

<p><i>Job 28:4 He breaks open a shaft away from people; In places forgotten by feet They hang far away from men; They swing to and fro.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:5 As for the earth, from it comes bread, But underneath it is turned up as by fire;</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:6 Its stones are the source of sapphires, And it contains gold dust.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:7 That path no bird knows, Nor has the falcon's eye seen it.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:8 The proud lions have not trodden it, Nor has the fierce lion passed over it.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:9 He puts his hand on the flint; He overturns the mountains at the roots.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:10 He cuts out channels in the rocks, And his eye sees every precious thing.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:11 He dams up the streams from trickling; What is hidden he brings forth to light.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:12 "But where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:13 Man does not know its value, Nor is it found in the land of the living.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:14 The deep says, 'It is not in me'; And the sea says, 'It is not with me.'</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:15 It cannot be purchased for gold, Nor can silver be weighed for its price.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:16 It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir, In precious onyx or sapphire.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:17 Neither gold nor crystal can equal it, Nor can it be exchanged for jewelry of fine gold.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:18 No mention shall be made of coral or quartz, For the price of wisdom is above rubies.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:19 The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it, Nor can it be valued in pure gold.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:20 "From where then does wisdom come? And where is the place of understanding?</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:21 It is hidden from the eyes of all living, And concealed from the birds of the air.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:22 Destruction and Death say, 'We have heard a report about it with our ears.'</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:23 God understands its way, And He knows its place.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:24 For He looks to the ends of the earth, And sees under the whole heavens,</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:25 To establish a weight for the wind, And apportion the waters by measure.</i></p> <p><i>Job 28:26 When He made a law for the rain, And a path for the thunderbolt,</i></p>	<p><i>vs. 5-11</i> The hidden nature of earth’s treasure. <i>As for the earth, from it comes bread . . . its stones are the source of sapphires:</i> Job continued to paint the picture of the earth as treasure house of value and riches for those who are willing to work hard and search diligently for these riches. <i>He puts his hand on the flint; he overturns the mountains . . . he cuts out channels in the rocks . . . He dams up the streams:</i> Job here explained how hard men are willing to work to gain the treasure and wealth that is hidden in the earth.</p> <p><i>vs. 12-19</i> Job explains the value and the source of wisdom. <i>But where can wisdom be found?</i> Job makes the point he had built up to in the previous verses. Men search hard and are willing to endure danger for the sake of the riches of this earth; but all of that is <i>easy</i> compared to the search for wisdom.</p> <p><i>vs. 20-28</i> The source and summary of wisdom. <i>From where then does wisdom come?</i> Job explained how hard it was to find wisdom, and then asked the logical question. Job knew that <i>he</i> needed this precious wisdom, and he certainly knew that his <i>friends</i> needed this wisdom <u>God understands its way, and He knows its place:</u> Job knew the answer to his own question; he knew that God understood wisdom and its source. <i>To establish a weight for the wind, and apportion the waters by measure. . . . He made a law for the rain, and a path for the thunderbolt:</i> The same God who masters the natural world has the riches of wisdom at his disposal has demonstrated His own wisdom and power through the design of the natural world. <i>Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding:</i> Job concluded this great speech by coming back to the touchstone of revelation. Since true wisdom comes from God, it is found by being in right relation to Him (the fear of the Lord), and it is shown by a life that does depart from evil.</p>	<p><i>vs. 5-19</i> Men search hard and are willing to endure danger for the sake of the riches of this earth; but all of that is easy compared to the search for wisdom. How hard are we working to gain the treasure of God’s wisdom?</p> <p><i>vs. 20-28</i> Job is saying though men should explore the deep places of the earth with all the diligence of miners seeking gold and silver, in search of precious treasure yet it is not within the range of human labor and skill to attain unto wisdom. That can only be found by another and a higher method; it must come to us by revelation from God, for we cannot find it by our own efforts.” Job understood what the later psalmist also understood: <i>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom (Psa 111:10)</i>, an idea also repeated in <i>Pro 9:10</i> and <i>Pro 15:33</i>. If true wisdom can be simply gained by human effort, energy, and ingenuity (like the rare and precious metals of the</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – [Phil Twente](#), cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 28:27 Then He saw wisdom and declared it; He prepared it, indeed, He searched it out.

Job 28:28 And to man He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, And to depart from evil is understanding.' "

Job’s Summary Defense”3720

Job 29:1 Job further continued his discourse, and said:

Job 29:2 'Oh, that I were as in months past, As in the days when God watched over me;

Job 29:3 When His lamp shone upon my head, And when by His light I walked through darkness;

Job 29:4 Just as I was in the days of my prime, When the friendly counsel of God was over my tent;

Job 29:5 When the Almighty was yet with me, When my children were around me;

Job 29:6 When my steps were bathed with cream, And the rock poured out rivers of oil for me!

Job 29:7 "When I went out to the gate by the city, When I took my seat in the open square,

Job 29:8 The young men saw me and hid, And the aged arose and stood;

Job 29:9 The princes refrained from talking, And put their hand on their mouth;

Job 29:10 The voice of nobles was hushed, And their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth.

Job 29:11 When the ear heard, then it blessed me, And when the eye saw, then it approved me;

Job 29:12 Because I delivered the poor who cried out, The fatherless and the one who had no helper.

Job 29:13 The blessing of a perishing man came upon me, And I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

Job 29:14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; My justice was like a robe and a turban.

Job 29:15 I was eyes to the blind, And I was feet to the lame.

Job 29:16 I was a father to the poor, And I searched out the case that I did not know.

Job 29:17 I broke the fangs of the wicked, And plucked the victim from his teeth.

Job 29:18 "Then I said, 'I shall die in my nest, And multiply my days as the sand.

Job 29:19 My root is spread out to the waters, And the dew lies all night on my branch.

Job 29:20 My glory is fresh within me, And my bow is renewed in my hand.'

Chapter 29 vs.1-6 Job, blessed in his relationship with God, comments further in his discourse. *Oh, that I were as in months past, as in the days when God watched over me:* Job longed for the days before he lost his children and health and wealth, especially for the days before he lost his sense of God’s closeness. There was a time when he felt that God watched over him. *When His lamp shone upon my head . . . when the friendly counsel of God was over my tent . . . when the Almighty was yet with me:* Job remembered the days when it seemed that God was for him rather than against him. *When my children were around me; when my steps were bathed with cream, and the rock poured out rivers of oil for me:* Job gives us a beautiful picture of his former happy life. A time when genuinely felt that he was in fellowship with God and the blessing flowed in to every area of his life.

vs. 7-17 Job was blessed in the relationships with people. *I went out the gate . . . I took my seat in the open square:* In this and the following verses Job remembered how greatly he was respected in the community. He had a position of community leadership and was feared by the young men and honored by the aged. Even princes and nobles stopped talking and listened to him. *When the ear heard, then it blessed me, and when the eye saw, then it approved me:* Not only did Job gain the attention of the people and leaders of the city in days past; they also *liked* him and what he had to say. He was blessed and approved by those who heard him *Because I delivered the poor who cried out . . . I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy . . . I was eyes to the blind, and I was feet to the lame:* Job described how his reputation for wisdom and goodness was *deserved*. He was a man full of good and noble works, especially to the poor and disadvantaged.

vs. 18-20 Job reflects on former times. *I shall die in my nest, and multiply my days as the sand:* In his former confidence, Job felt that he would die happy and secure in his nest, after a good long life. *My root is spread out to the waters . . . My glory is fresh within me:* We can sense Job’s prior sense of blessing and abundance of life. His former blessed life made his present crisis all the more unbearable and seemingly unjust.

vs. 20-28 (con’t) earth), then the fear of the Lord is not essential to obtaining wisdom. But if it comes from God’s revelation, then right relationship with Him is the key to wisdom.

Chapter 29 vs.1-6 Job is thinking about the “good old days. For him they were very real and wonderful, especially compared to his present situation. Do you ever long for the good old day prior to your coming to the Lord? God forbid! How could we who died to sin, consider ever living in it?

vs. 7-17 Job is longingly reflecting on his previous position of power and being honored by those around him. Now it’s so different. As a believer we must remember that the world is at enmity against the Lord, therefore, may we not covet worldly honor!

vs. 18-20. Job remembers his former times when he was happy and secure, thinking that he would die fully satisfied after a good long life. Now everything is all upside down. When we have those time and the future is so uncertain, we need to cling to what we know from His Word and not to worry about what we don’t know!

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 29:21 "Men listened to me and waited, And kept silence for my counsel.

Job 29:22 After my words they did not speak again, And my speech settled on them as dew.

Job 29:23 They waited for me as for the rain, And they opened their mouth wide as for the spring rain.

Job 29:24 If I mocked at them, they did not believe it, And the light of my countenance they did not cast down.

Job 29:25 I chose the way for them, and sat as chief; So I dwelt as a king in the army, As one who comforts mourners.
46 53

Job 30:1 "But now they mock at me, men younger than I, Whose fathers I disdained to put with the dogs of my flock.

Job 30:2 Indeed, what profit is the strength of their hands to me? Their vigor has perished.

Job 30:3 They are gaunt from want and famine, Fleeing late to the wilderness, desolate and waste,

Job 30:4 Who pluck mallow by the bushes, And broom tree roots for their food.

Job 30:5 They were driven out from among men, They shouted at them as at a thief.

Job 30:6 They had to live in the clefts of the valleys, In caves of the earth and the rocks.

Job 30:7 Among the bushes they brayed, Under the nettles they nestled.

Job 30:8 They were sons of fools, Yes, sons of vile men; They were scourged from the land.

Job 30:9 "And now I am their taunting song; Yes, I am their byword.

Job 30:10 They abhor me, they keep far from me; They do not hesitate to spit in my face.

Job 30:11 Because He has loosed my bowstring and afflicted me, They have cast off restraint before me.

Job 30:12 At my right hand the rabble arises; They push away my feet, And they raise against me their ways of destruction.

Job 30:13 They break up my path, They promote my calamity; They have no helper.

Job 30:14 They come as broad breakers; Under the ruinous storm they roll along.

Job 30:15 Terrors are turned upon me; They pursue my honor as the

vs. 21-25 Job’s former authority and leadership in the community. *Men listened to me and waited . . . After my words they did not speak again:* Job again remembered how greatly he was respected and esteemed in the community. He was a man honored for his wisdom; for his wise words. *I chose the way for them, and sat as chief:* What a tremendous contrast between the former esteem Job enjoyed and the terrible criticism he had endured from his friends. There was a time when no one would have criticized Job the way his friends now did.

Chapter 30 vs. 1-8 Job’s loss of respect in the community. *Now they mock at me, men younger than I, whose fathers I disdained to put with the dogs of my flock:* Job was tortured by the irony of it all. The sons of men whom Job would not even put with the dogs of his flock, an expression of sovereign contempt, were now his mockers and critics. *They are gaunt from want and famine . . . They had to live in the clefts of the valleys . . . They were the sons of fools:* Job thought of what worthless men were now his loud critics, and how unjust it all was.

vs. 9-15 The mocking Job must endure. *I am their taunting song; yes I am their byword:* Job was now low in the eyes of these worthless men. *Terrors are turned upon me; they pursue my honor as the wind, and my prosperity has passed like a cloud:* Job mourned the agony of his present state of being despised among men, when before he was respected and honored. His honor and prosperity had vanished. They come as broad breakers; under the ruinous storm they roll along:

vs. 21-25 Job is a tremendous example of how a wealthy and powerful man should live his life; not in selfish indulgence, but in care and concern for the less fortunate. Job’s checklist of how he treated the poor is worthy of our consideration!

Chapter 30 vs. 1-8 In the last chapter Job thought longingly about how his life was prior to this period of affliction and suffering. Now he vividly describes the low life, due to their poor decision making, who now taunt and mock him. Can we imagine how we would behave and act toward God if we were in his situation?

vs. 9-15 How Job’s description of how he was treated and mocked, it reminds us a little of what our Lord and Savior went through. Yet He said, “Father forgive them. They know not what they do”! Again what a great example for us!

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

wind, And my prosperity has passed like a cloud.
Job 30:16 *"And now my soul is poured out because of my plight; The days of affliction take hold of me.*
Job 30:17 *My bones are pierced in me at night, And my gnawing pains take no rest.*
Job 30:18 *By great force my garment is disfigured; It binds me about as the collar of my coat.*
Job 30:19 *He has cast me into the mire, And I have become like dust and ashes.*
Job 30:20 *"I cry out to You, but You do not answer me; I stand up, and You regard me.*
Job 30:21 *But You have become cruel to me; With the strength of Your hand You oppose me.*
Job 30:22 *You lift me up to the wind and cause me to ride on it; You spoil my success.*
Job 30:23 *For I know that You will bring me to death, And to the house appointed for all living.*
Job 30:24 *"Surely He would not stretch out His hand against a heap of ruins, If they cry out when He destroys it.*
Job 30:25 *Have I not wept for him who was in trouble? Has not my soul grieved for the poor?*
Job 30:26 *But when I looked for good, evil came to me; And when I waited for light, then came darkness.*
Job 30:27 *My heart is in turmoil and cannot rest; Days of affliction confront me.*
Job 30:28 *I go about mourning, but not in the sun; I stand up in the assembly and cry out for help.*
Job 30:29 *I am a brother of jackals, And a companion of ostriches.*
Job 30:30 *My skin grows black and falls from me; My bones burn with fever.*
Job 30:31 *My harp is turned to mourning, And my flute to the voice of those who weep.*

vs. 16-23 The misery of his present pain, both spiritual and physical. *And now my soul is poured out because of my plight:* Job again described his present crisis. He described the persistent, gnawing pains that were ever with him; but for him it was *first* a crisis of the soul. *My bones are pierced . . . my gnawing pains take no rest . . . my garment is disfigured:* With poetic power and eloquence, Job described the physical agony of his suffering. *I cry out to You, but You do not answer me:* This was the worst aspect of Job’s suffering, the sense that God had forsaken him. He undeniably felt that God was against him (*with the strength of Your hand You oppose me . . . You spoil my success*). Indeed, Job felt that God wanted to and would destroy him (*I know that You will bring me to death*).

vs. 24-31 The injustice done to Job. *Surely He would not stretch out His hand against a heap of ruins:* Job felt, “God, you are more merciful than this. You would not afflict a pitiful heap of ruins if only it would cry out to You.” Job wondered why God did not respond to *his* cries. Job’s greatest sorrow was that when he cried to God, there was no answer. *Have I not wept for him who was in trouble? Has not my soul grieved for the poor?* Job wondered why wouldn’t did not treat him with the same kindness Job had often shown to others. *My heart is in turmoil and cannot rest:* Perhaps Job *tried* to just take it easy and not get so troubled over his problems, but for him it was impossible. His physical and spiritual agony was more than it seemed he could bear or his friends could relate to.

vs. 16-23 Job is hurting so badly. He cries out to the Lord, but he says the Lord doesn’t answer. He falsely accuses God from opposing him and spoiling his success. He thinks God will bring him to his death. How easy it is for us to have lapses of faith in times of great agony and tribulation. At those times we must remember His promises to us in His word!

vs. 24-31 Job here demonstrates natural tendency for all of us to misinterpret God’s silence as lack of concern and indifference. Job assumes that God’s silence means God’s displeasure.” He fairly soon will see the whole picture and see how wrong he was in his assumption regarding God’s love for him.

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – [Phil Twente](#), cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job's Final Appeal

Job 31:1 *"I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?"*

Job 31:2 *For what is the allotment of God from above, And the inheritance of the Almighty from on high?*

Job 31:3 *Is it not destruction for the wicked, And disaster for the workers of iniquity?*

Job 31:4 *Does He not see my ways, And count all my steps?*

Job 31:5 *"If I have walked with falsehood, Or if my foot has hastened to deceit,*

Job 31:6 *Let me be weighed on honest scales, That God may know my integrity.*

Job 31:7 *If my step has turned from the way, Or my heart walked after my eyes, Or if any spot adheres to my hands,*

Job 31:8 *Then let me sow, and another eat; Yes, let my harvest be rooted out.*

Job 31:9 *"If my heart has been enticed by a woman, Or if I have lurked at my neighbor's door,*

Job 31:10 *Then let my wife grind for another, And let others bow down over her.*

Job 31:11 *For that would be wickedness; Yes, it would be iniquity deserving of judgment.*

Job 31:12 *For that would be a fire that consumes to destruction, And would root out all my increase.*

Job 31:13 *"If I have despised the cause of my male or female servant When they complained against me,*

Job 31:14 *What then shall I do when God rises up? When He punishes, how shall I answer Him?*

Job 31:15 *Did not He who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same One fashion us in the womb?*

vs. 1-4 *I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman?*

In this section, Job protested that on a human scale, he was a godly and blameless man. His larger context was to explain the sense of injustice he felt at his suffering and humiliation, and to make a final defense before his friends who accused him of special sin deserving of special judgment. *I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman?* In defending his righteous life, Job said he was a morally pure man who did not look upon (a gateway for lust) a young woman in impure and inappropriate ways. *A covenant with my eyes:* Job's ability to control himself was connected with a covenant he made. He made a vow, a promise, a commitment *with my eyes* that he would not look upon a young woman in a sinful way. *For what is the allotment of God from above:* Job understood that the young woman he would be enticed to look upon was not the allotment of God for him; she and her nakedness did not belong to Job in any sense. ([Lev 18:1-18](#)). *Is it not destruction for the wicked, and disaster for the workers of iniquity?* Job also considered the destructive nature of allowing one's self to be aroused by alluring images. He perhaps considered the lives of others that had been destroyed by lust and sexual sin that began with visual arousal. *Does He not see all my ways, and count all my steps?* When it came to lust, it was helpful for Job to consider that God's eye was upon him all the time!

vs. 5-8 *If I have walked with falsehood:* Job also proclaimed his blameless life because he lived an essentially truthful life. He was not afraid to be weighed on honest scales, and have his life examined in an honest way. *Then let me sow, and another eat:* Job was not afraid to call a curse upon himself, if he indeed was not an honest man. He was willing to be deprived of the fruit of his own labor if it was true that he was found lacking on the honest scales of God's judgment.

vs. 9-12 *If my heart as been enticed by a woman:* Now Job proclaimed he was faithful to his wife within the marriage. He understood that this had more than a sexual aspect. It also included the heart being enticed. *Then let my wife grind for another:* Job insisted that if he had been unfaithful in heart or in action towards his wife, then he would deserve to have his wife taken from him and given to another. *For that would be a fire that consumes to destruction:* Job also understood that allowing his heart to be enticed by a woman other than his wife would bring a destructive result.

vs. 13-15 *If I have despised the cause of my male or female servant:* Job now notes his own righteousness by noting the good and compassionate treatment of his servants, which often best indicated by how they treat those thought to be inferior to them, **vs. 13-15 (cont'd)** *What then shall I do when God rises up?* When He punishes, how shall I answer Him? One reason Job treated his servants well was because he understood that he would have to answer to God for his actions towards others, including his servants. He understood that God cared about his servants and would avenge ill-treatment of them. *Did not He who made me in the womb make them?* Another reason Job treated his servants well was because he recognized their essential humanity. This was both remarkable and admirable in a time when it was almost universally understood that servants and slaves were sub-human next to those whom they served.

vs. 1-4 Have we made such a covenant with our eyes regrading looking upon a young woman? Job seemed to consider that God's eye was upon him all the time! How right that is! Are we living with that paramount in our thoughts and mind, that God indeed sees and knows everything about us all the time!

vs. 5-8 Considering the way we are living our lives right now, how willing would we be to say as Job, did that he was not afraid to call a curse upon himself, if he indeed was not an honest man?

vs. 9-12 Do we view and practice as Job did and could we testify that we have been completely faithful and true at all times to our spouse? [Pro 6:27-29](#) *Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? [28] Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared? [29] So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.*

vs. 13-15 How do we treat those who serve us? Job indeed has a remarkable testimony in a time when it was almost universally understood that servants and slaves were sub-human next to those whom they served.

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCM – [Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221](#); email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

*Job 31:16 "If I have kept the poor from their desire, Or caused the eyes of the widow to fail,
Job 31:17 Or eaten my morsel by myself, So that the fatherless could not eat of it
Job 31:18 (But from my youth I reared him as a father, And from my mother's womb I guided the widow);
Job 31:19 If I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing, Or any poor man without covering;
Job 31:20 If his heart has not blessed me, And if he was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;
Job 31:21 If I have raised my hand against the fatherless, When I saw I had help in the gate;
Job 31:22 Then let my arm fall from my shoulder, Let my arm be torn from the socket.
Job 31:23 For destruction from God is a terror to me, And because of His magnificence I cannot endure.*

*Job 31:24 "If I have made gold my hope, Or said to fine gold, 'You are my confidence';
Job 31:25 If I have rejoiced because my wealth was great, And because my hand had gained much;
Job 31:26 If I have observed the sun when it shines, Or the moon moving in brightness,
Job 31:27 So that my heart has been secretly enticed, And my mouth has kissed my hand;
Job 31:28 This also would be an iniquity deserving of judgment, For I would have denied God who is above.*

*Job 31:29 "If I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me, Or lifted myself up when evil found him
Job 31:30 (Indeed I have not allowed my mouth to sin By asking for a curse on his soul);
Job 31:31 If the men of my tent have not said, 'Who is there that has not been satisfied with his meat?'
Job 31:32 (But no sojourner had to lodge in the street, For I have opened my doors to the traveler);
Job 31:33 If I have covered my transgressions as Adam, By hiding my iniquity in my bosom,
Job 31:34 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—*

vs.16-23 Job did not victimize the poor or the weak. *If I have kept the poor from their desire, or caused the eyes of the widow to fail:* Also Job insisted that he had been good and kind to the poor and to the helpless, the widow and the fatherless. *If I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing . . . Then let my arm fall from my shoulder:* Job called for a curse upon himself if it was true that he had not cared for the poor and helpless as he claimed he had. He knew that if he had been cruel and oppressive to the poor and needy, he knew that he would indeed deserve punishment, and this was part of his motivation to care the way that he did.

vs. 24-28 Job was not greedy or a seeker of false gods. *If I have made gold my hope:* Job knew that wealthy men found it easy to trust in riches. Therefore he again insisted that he had not made riches his hope or his confidence, and also had not rejoiced because his wealth was great. *If I have observed the sun when it shines:* Job had not engaged in the common practice of sun-worship. His heart was not secretly enticed to idolatry, which was apparently sometimes worshipped with the kissing of the hand. *This also would be an iniquity deserving of judgment, for I would have denied God who is above:* Job apparently knew that idolatry was wrong by both natural revelation and by conscience. He knew that since there was a true, living God enthroned in the heavens, it was an iniquity deserving of judgment to deny the God who is above and to worship any other.

vs. 29-34 *If I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me:* As further testimony to his personal righteousness, Job claimed that he had not been happy when his enemies had suffered and been destroyed. *By asking for a curse on his soul:* Job did not even curse his enemies. He kept himself from this most natural reaction. *No sojourner had to lodge in the street:* Job was also a diligent man when it came to hospitality. He would not allow a visitor to sleep on the street and instead he opened his doors to the traveler. *If I have covered my transgressions as Adam, by hiding iniquity in my bosom:* The basic and consistent argument of Job’s friends against him was that though he appeared to be righteous, he really must be covering some serious sin that made sense of the calamity that came against him. Therefore, Job insisted that he was not covering his sins as Adam, who blamed Eve and vainly tried to cover his sin.

vs.16-23 We know God has such a heart for the poor. Job’s treatment of the poor and unfortunate around him was indeed admirable. How would our treatment compare to that of Job’s?

vs. 24-28 Job had a great testimony regard his love of riches and not seeking false gods. He apparently knew that idolatry was wrong by both natural revelation and by conscience. He knew that since there was a true, living God enthroned in the heavens, it was an iniquity deserving of judgment to deny the God who is above and to worship any other. Another great example for us!

vs. 29-34 Job did not rejoice at the destruction of his enemies. This is certainly one mark of a man after God’s heart, who also takes no pleasure in the destruction of the wicked (*Eze_33:11*)

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Job 31:35 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 31:36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder, And bind it on me like a crown;

Job 31:37 I would declare to Him the number of my steps; Like a prince I would approach Him.

Job 31:38 "If my land cries out against me, And its furrows weep together;

Job 31:39 If I have eaten its fruit without money, Or caused its owners to lose their lives;

Job 31:40 Then let thistles grow instead of wheat, And weeds instead of barley." The words of Job are ended.

vs. 35-37 Oh, that I had one to hear me! Job probably had much more he could say to defend himself, but broke off that line of reasoning and made a final, dramatic appeal to be heard before the throne of God. *Oh, that the Almighty would answer me:* Job was absolutely convinced that what he needed was vindication or an answer from God. His friends had come to completely wrong conclusions. Job couldn't make sense of it himself. Here he called God out to answer for what He had done. *That my Prosecutor had written a book!* This shows the some spiritual confusion of Job. He felt that God was his accuser (*my Prosecutor*), when really it was Satan. Job could not see behind that mysterious curtain that separated earth from heaven; yet we learn from what Job should have known. *Surely I would carry it on my shoulder:* Here Job, stepping over bound he would later repent of, longed to have the accusation of God against him written out so he could refute it as he had so effectively refuted his friends. He so confident in what he knew of himself that he said he would approach God like a prince.

vs. 38-40 The conclusion of Job's words. *If my land cries out against me:* In this chapter Job testified to his own integrity in the most solemn terms, calling repeated curses upon himself if his friends could indeed demonstrate that he was a sinner worthy of judgment or discipline from God. Now, he called one more witness on his behalf: his own land and property. *The words of Job are ended:* It isn't that there are no more words from Job in this Book of Job; he will speak again briefly in later chapters. Yet Job is done arguing his case. He is finished; one more man will try in vain to fix the problem; and then God will appear. We might rightly say that God – silent to this point, could not or would not appear and speak until all the arguments of man were exhausted.

JOY TO THE WORLD – Isaac Watts – Handel

Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ. While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy; Repeat the sounding joy; Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing!

vs. 35-37 Job finishes defending himself and makes a dramatic to be heard before the throne of God. He so confident in what he knew of himself that he said he would approach God like a prince. How awesome it is for us having a Redeemer and Savior who has restored access directly to the throne of God by His paying the price of our sin in full!

vs. 38-40 Job has testified to his own integrity in the most solemn of terms, calling repeated curses upon himself if his friends could indeed demonstrate that he was a sinner worthy of judgment or discipline from God. Oh that we had such a testimony regarding our living as a believer should!

JOB – Chapters 26-31 – “Job Man’s Frailty and God’s Majesty; Job Maintains His Integrity; Job’s Discourse on Wisdom; Job’s Summary Defense”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: www.ptwente.com Click on “Latest Studies” under “Bible Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION