

Discussion Guide for Job

Prologue (Cpt. 1-2)

Who is it that calls Satan's attention to Job?
What comfort do we receive from 1:12 and 2:6?

Note the extent to which Satan goes—even using his own wife against him. What was Satan trying to prove?

Point out some of the admirable words of Job in Cpt. 1 & 2 and comment on them.

Chapter 2:11 – 3:26

What did the three friends do when they arrived at Job's place? What does this indicate about them?

What is Job's state of mind at this point?

Chapter 4-5:

Eliphaz's first speech.

Comment on these words: You counseled others . . . , I observed, I had a dream.
"Can a mortal be more righteous than God?"

What is Eliphaz's attitude?

Chapter 6-7:

Job's response. "Is this how you deal with a despairing man?" What does he mean?

Chapter 8:

Bildad. Consider verse 4. Was Bildad right? Was this what was needed?
History proves you must have committed some sin to deserve this, now repent.

Chapter 9-10:

Job: No one is righteous before God, but I am blameless of any sin deserving this kind of punishment. Why did God even make me if he was going to let this happen?
How would you answer Job?

Chapter 11:

Zophar (1): You need to be rebuked. "God has even forgotten some of your sin."
Just do right and you will be healed. How would you answer Zophar?

Chapter 12-14:

Job's Answer: Your argument from history doesn't hold up. Why?

I know all your theories for the reason for suffering—I still want to plead my case with God. “Summon me and I will answer.” (Be careful what you ask for)

Man is born sinful so what’s the big deal, why even bother with him?

Chapter 15:

Eliphaz 2: How does Eliphaz answer Job’s statement that the wicked don’t always suffer?

Chapter 16-17:

Job: You don’t put yourself in my shoes, therefore you cannot comfort or befriend me. God is at war with me.

I have repented in sackcloth and ashes and I have not been healed.

Chapter 18:

Bildad 2: How does Bildad answer Job’s claim that he is repentant?

Chapter 19:

Job: God is at war with me for no reason. If what you say is true, you too are in for trouble. Explain

Yet, “I know that my redeemer lives.” A very clear teaching of the resurrection of the body.

Chapter 20:

Zophar 2: What or whom is Zophar’s main concern?

You must have enriched yourself at the expense of others. God punishes the wicked.

Chapter 21:

Job: Not true. What examples does Job give that what Zophar says is not always true?

Chapter 22:

Eliphaz 3: You were unjust to others. Just submit to God and you will prosper. Who says this today?

Chapter 23-24:

Job: Look at all the evil in the world. If God is punishing me, why not them? What did Job want? How could he dare to ask this?

Chapter 25:

Bildad 3: How does Bildad answer Job?

Chapter 26-31:

Job: Very sarcastic.

I will not accept your accusations.

Where is wisdom?

I have not abused others, I have cared for the fatherless and the widow.

Let God use honest scales – let the almighty answer me.

Note 31:24-28. Did Job have the 10 Commandments?

Chapter 32-37:

Elihu: Not mentioned earlier. Younger than the others, therefore held his tongue.

Job, you are righteous only in your own eyes. You are trying to justify yourself rather than God. If someone is wrong or unjust who is it, you or God?

God speaks in many ways, even through pain and trouble. What is always his purpose?

Note 33:23-24. The idea of redemption in connection with a mediator. Sounds like? _____

God cannot do evil (34:10).

If God is silent he is not unjust.

“Should God reward you on your terms?”

Your sin or your righteousness don't affect God.

God does not answer arrogance.

Elihu is defending God. Job, consider God's power and majesty.

Although much of what Elihu says is correct how does he fall short of offering Job comfort?

To this point, the three friends, and to an extent Elihu also, have stressed the sovereignty of God and have completely forgotten about the grace of God. How is this done today and what is the danger of this way of presenting God?

Chapter 38-39:

Job was sarcastic, now so is God. Were you there at creation? Do you know how “nature” works? Do you have control over the animals?

Chapter 40:3-5 How does Job answer God?

Chapter 40 – 41:

“Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?” How had Job done this?

Main thought: Everything is mine.

Behemoth and Leviathan. Some say just imaginary. Some say extinct dinosaurs. Some say Hippo and Alligator. Comment.

Chapter 42:

How does Job answer God?

What affect did all these things have on Job?

Epilogue:

The 3 friends are rebuked. Why?

Elihu is not rebuked. Why?

Job becomes a mediator for his friends. Everything is restored and more.

What answer does this book give to the problem of suffering?

What can we learn from this book about comforting our fellow Christians?