

Job Chapter 28

- The “parable” of Job continues. In this case “parable” means “difficult to understand...”

V: 1-4 Job is describing valuable things from a worldly perspective and the lengths that man will go to to get it.

- Men will dig deep shafts into the earth, mining for riches and wealth, a dangerous occupation. Sometimes they dig and hit a spring that floods the mine which they will either dam up or divert in some way, because they’re still after the silver, the gold, and the precious stones. It gets dark down there, the stones of darkness in the shadow of death.

V: 5 While there is wheat and barley above the ground, there is silver, gold, and precious stones down below.

V: 6-8 Neither the eagle which is high above and has great eye sight, nor the lion which is king of the beasts and can go wherever he wants, neither of them know the underground paths of these precious things.

V: 9-11 “He” - But God knows all these things, God is the revealer of secrets, He knows the hidden things.

- “He” - the miner, digs up the whole mountain, he cuts rivers / shafts among the rocks, he sifts through everything, all the dirt - tailings.

V: 12-18 Men can find worldly treasure, but what about wisdom, it’s all about wisdom.

Proverbs 3:13-15 “¹³Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. ¹⁴For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and gain thereof than fine gold. ¹⁵She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.”

- Wisdom can’t be purchased, it’s above price.

V: 19-22 Wisdom and understanding can’t be found anywhere, except with God.

Proverbs 9:10 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”

The Bible tells us concerning Jesus:

Colossians 2:3 “In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

- Wisdom is such a valuable treasure, the rarest of commodities - scarce.
- Even though it is so rare, we have access to the source!

James 1:5 “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

V: 23-28 In verse 12 Job asks “where is wisdom, where can it be found?” Here he gives us the answer.

Proverbs 2:6 “For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.”

Colossians 3:16 “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

- Like we’ve read in proverbs, the fear of the Lord is where wisdom is found, and in departing from evil. This was pretty much God’s description of Job, in spite of what his friends said about him - so according to God, Job was a man of wisdom.
- What is the fear of the Lord?
- The fear of the Lord is a loving reverence for God, who He is, what He says, and what He does.

Malachi 2:5-6 “⁵My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared Me, and was afraid before My name. ⁶The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with Me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.”

- When you fear the Lord you obey His commandments:

Ecclesiastes 12:13 “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

Deuteronomy 8:6 “Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in His ways, and to fear Him.”

- If we love God, we’ll keep His commandments:

1 John 5:3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.”

- The first step towards true wisdom is a reverent and respectful attitude toward God, which also involves a humble attitude toward ourselves. Personal pride is the greatest barrier to spiritual wisdom.

Proverbs 11:2 “When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.”

Job Chapter 29

V: 1-25 Job remembers and longs for the good old days, when he was blessed, and respected, and secure.

- Someone once defined the “good old days” as “a combination of bad memory and a good imagination!”

V: 1-2 “**Moreover...**” Job will begin to sum up his defense and wrap up his comments. Job remembers that there was a time when God preserved and protected him.

- It is significant to note that as Job describes the things that gave him joy and happiness, the number 1 thing he’s describing is the presence of God in his life!

V: 3 God shined His light upon Job, and it was with God’s light that he was able to walk through the darkness.

Psalms 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

John 8:12 “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

- When God was leading the way and lighting his path, he could understand it.

V: 4-5 In his younger days when Job was “on the in” with God, when he was close to God, and his children were about him. When he felt the presence of God.

- As you get older, there are those times when we wish we could go back to those bygone times, those nostalgic times - but we can’t, time marches on.
- We have to be careful not to live in the past. To long for the good old days when God was really working in our lives. We should be moving forward in our walk with Him, growing, learning, maturing - closer and closer to Him.

V: 6 Poetic, descriptive, hyperbole, an exaggerated statement not meant to be taken literally: “a land flowing with milk and honey...”

- My steps were awash in butter - flowing abundantly with milk, oil from the rock, the oil presses running with oil.
- Job took Joy in the presence and blessings of God.

V: 7-11 Job was one of the leaders of the community, the gates of the city were the places of judgment, Job was one of those judges, he had a seat in the gates of the city.

- Unlike today, I was respected. Young men / foolish men were afraid of him, old men stood out of respect. Powerful men stopped talking, so they wouldn't sound foolish in comparison, and so they could hear what Job had to say.
- In those days Job had honor and respect, people sought out his counsel and judgment. His judgements were so right that the people blessed him when they would hear his words.

V: 12-17 Contrary to what he's been accused of, Job declares that he's taken care of the poor and the fatherless. He took joy in his ministry to others.

V: 13 The widow's heart sang for joy; why? Because they were helped.

V: 14-15 Job wore righteousness like a garment. He was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame - he ministered to them.

V: 16 Job was a father to the poor. Father's take care of their children.

V: 17 He broke the jaws of the wicked, he was a protector of the weak. Like a shepherd he dealt with the wolves, and plucked the spoil, the lambs, out of their teeth.

- As we read this, we might be tempted to say, well that's Job talking about himself - but God has already affirmed Job:

Job 2:3 "... there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? And still he holdeth fast his integrity,..."

V: 18 I had it made! I thought I'd die at a ripe old age, in my own bed, surrounded by my children.

V: 19-20 I was planted in a well watered place and was flourishing.

V: 21-23 When I spoke people listened, they waited for and hung on every word - it ministered to them and strengthened them, like parched ground soaking up the rain water.

V: 24-25 Job could smile at them and it was a blessing, he was able to joke around with them, and no one got their feelings hurt. Job was held in high esteem.

- Job now turns his parable from describing the good old days, to describing his present circumstances.

Job Chapter 30

V: 1-2 People much younger than Job, who's fathers he didn't even respect, they mock him now.

- He wouldn't even let them sit with his dogs, they had no ability to profit / help / benefit him because of who they are and now their children mock him.

V: 3-8 The people he's talking about lived in the wilderness, a wild kind of life. They didn't plant crops or shepherd herds, they lived off of the land, they ate the roots of trees and bushes. They became the bandits and marauders - un-civilized.

"⁸... children of fools, ... base men, viler than the earth."

V: 9-10 Song: taunting / mocking song.

- Byword: Job's name has become a "byword" or synonymous with cursed or wretched.
- They "abhor me..." to utterly detest, to loath, view as disgusting or vile, to hate.
- They don't hesitate to spit in my face... one of the most disgusting displays of disrespect and hatred.

[Prophesies record this would happen to Messiah:](#)

Isaiah 50:6 "I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting."

Matthew 26:67 "Then did they spit in His face, and buffeted Him; and others smote Him with the palms of their hands."

V: 11-15 Because God has withdrawn from me, removed His blessing - they have shown no restraint. Even the youth are disrespectful - they push away my feet / they trip me. They mar my path / stand in my way / they won't get out of my way.

- This has all come upon me suddenly and overwhelmingly.

V: 16-17 Job is in constant pain, keeping him from any real rest.

V: 18 The ulcers and sores running, oozing have caked up in the dirt and ashes, soaking through his garments, restricting his movements.

V: 19-24 “He” speaking of God, has cast him down, God is not hearing or regarding his cries.

- You have become cruel, your strong hand has come against me.
- You’re bringing me to the grave!

V: 25-30 Job again attests to his innocence.

- Wasn’t I compassionate to the poor?
- I tried to do go, to do the right thing, and look at what has happened!
- Further describing his medical condition: bowel boiling - diarrhea. His skin being blackened. The boils getting grotesque.

V: 31 His harp, his instrument of joy - has been turned into an instrument of weeping.

- Job is in a pitiful, seemingly hopeless place, as we all are at times.
- We’re all brought to the same realization as Job, that we are wretched sinners; and Jesus came to turn it all around if we will let Him!

[Describing Messiah:](#)

Isaiah 61:3 “To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.”