

Feb 27, 2022



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks  
Baptist Church**  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**QUESTION FOR THE WEEK:**  
What steps can you take to discern God's leading or to act on His call for your life?

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:**  
Dear Lord, help me to trust You even when I don't understand

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**  
Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them  
(Ps 139:16 NKJV)

*(from "Our Daily Bread", Dec 07, 2018)*

**Series: God Frees and Redeems**

**UNIT 1: Liberating Passover**

**NEXT WEEK**

**Freed from Captivity  
(Ezra 1:1-8, 11; 2:64-70)**

## **Job and the Just God Job 42:1-6, 10-17**

### **Lesson Background and Introduction**

Job's response, described in this week's lesson, follows a lengthy and pointed reprimand from God. Out of a storm (Job 38:1; 40:6), God appeared to Job and warned him to "brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me" (38:3). God's response was not an attempt to belittle Job or to provide answers for Job's suffering and lament. Rather, God's intent was to show Job the limit of his understanding of God's purposes and plans. God's just nature will not be thwarted, brought into question, or limited by humanity. It's highly unlikely that any of us have had 10 children die and have lost all possessions, etc., as Job did. Even so, our reactions during challenging circumstances often mirror Job's. He lamented in unknowing, and allowed the intensity of his emotions to govern his speech toward God. After Job experienced God's presence and pointed line of questioning, Job realized his insignificance and the baseless nature of his questioning of God. Job had questioned his just God, only to realize he spoke out of turn. Job learned firsthand that God's purpose or plan may not be evident to human eyes, but God remains just in the midst of it all. Often, when faced with unexplainable and challenging circumstances, we want answers and explanations for the reason for our suffering. So we ask why relentlessly, implying that answers will satisfy the longing of our souls as they explain the unexplainable. But a greater salve for our wounded souls is an overwhelming vision of God, in which his eternal presence and wise counsel become the anchor for our lives and guide us to whatever he might have next for us.

*(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)*

**God Is in Control** - God is just and fair. Sometimes we don't understand Him because things don't always add up in our thinking. Job came to that conclusion after God asked him a series of questions about Creation. Job had to cover his mouth, unable to answer. Job realized God is sovereign, supreme in rule and authority, over all things. Job confessed his limited understanding of God. Job had assumed God was his enemy and doubted God's goodness.

**Job's Understanding** - Job asked God for permission to speak. He realized what God ordains always comes to pass, and it does not derail His purposes. The Lord opened Job's eyes. He now viewed God as sovereign. In humility, he recognized we human beings lack an understanding of God's ways.

**Prayer for Misguided Friends** - God showed His displeasure with Job's friends. Their incorrect words about Job made his suffering worse. He instructed the friends to take sacrificial animals to atone for their wrongdoings toward Job and they obeyed. Job then prayed for them. They had posed as friends but spoke like enemies. God accepted Job's prayer of intercession.

**Celebration** - God mended and restored Job's relationships and gave him many blessings, far beyond his wildest imagination. Job now bowed his knee before God even deeper. He walked with God as his close companion.

**Trust God in Difficult Times** - This is a major lesson Christians need to learn from Job's experience. In all circumstances, whether we understand what God is doing or not, He knows what He is doing. We can trust Him.

*(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **Job Responds with Humility (Job 42:1-6)**

#### *Humility knowing God is sovereign (1-2)*

God can do all things because nothing is too hard for Him (Gen 18:14)

God can do all things because no one can oppose Him (Isa 43:13)

God can do all things because of His great power (Jeer 32:17)

God can do all things because nothing is impossible for Him (Matt 19:26)

God can do all things because everything is possible for God (Mark 14:35-36)

#### *Humility knowing that God's plans cannot be thwarted (2)*

God's plans cannot be thwarted because God's plans stand firm forever (Ps 33:10-11)

God's plans cannot be thwarted because God determines the outcome (Prov 16:9)

God's plans cannot be thwarted because God's purposes will prevail (Prov 19:21)

God's plans cannot be thwarted because God has sworn to do what He has planned (Isa 14:24)

God's plans cannot be thwarted because His purposes will stand (Isa 46:10)

#### *Humility knowing that man does not have full understanding (3)*

Man does not have full understanding because God's works are too numerous to understand (Ps 40:5)

Man does not have full understanding because of ignorance (Eph 4:18)

Man does not have full understanding because of not having the indwelling Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:14)

Man does not have full understanding because of not relying on the revelation of the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:17)

#### *Humility through knowing God better (4-5)*

Knowing God better through obedience to God's Word (1 John 2:3-6)

Knowing God better through knowing Jesus (John 17:3)

Knowing God better through having Jesus as Shepherd (John 10:14)

Knowing God better through prayer (Prov 2:2-5)

Knowing God better through nature (Hab 2:14)

Knowing God better through the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:17)

#### *Humility that leads to the repenting of sins (6)*

Repent of sins through godly sorrow (2 Cor 7:10-11)

Repent of sins to please God (Ezek 18:23)

Repent of sins to escape from the trap of Satan (2 Tim 2:25-26)

Repent now because the Kingdom of Heaven is near (Matt 4:17)

Repent so that the times of refreshing can come (Acts 3:19)

Repent because the times of ignorance has passed (Acts 17:30)

Repent during the times of earthly life because after that it will be impossible (Luke 16:27-31)

### **God's Justice Leads to Restoration (Job 42:10-17)**

#### *Restoration of losses (10)*

Restoration through the Grace of God that will restore after suffering a little while (1 Peter 5:10)

Restoration through the future glory that helps to endure the momentary suffering now (2 Cor 4:17-18)

Restoration after suffering for a while because there is a rich reward waiting (Heb 10:32-35)

Restoration through the sufficiency of God's grace (2 Cor 12:9-10)

Restoration through God's compassion (2 Cor 1:3-4)

#### *Restoration of blessings (11-15)*

Restoration of affliction (Ps 107:41)

Restoration of children (Ps 127:3)

Restoration of resources to have all that is needed (2 Cor 9:8)

Restoration with the best (Isa 1:19)

Restoration of God's refreshing (Acts 3:19)

Restoration of the soul that leads into righteousness (Ps 23:2-3)

#### *Restoration of longer life (16-17)*

Life lengthened through obedience (Deut 4:40)

Life lengthened through a controlled tongue (Ps 34:12-14)

Life lengthened through God's blessings (Isa 65:20)

Life lengthened through Jesus that never perishes (John 10:28)

Life lengthened through being in Jesus (1 John 5:11-12)