

life coming apart at the seams?

Trusting in God's
goodness when
life seems to be
falling apart.



Studies from the life of Job.

**Job 38:1-7
40:1-2;8 & 42:1-10**

CHAPTER 1



- BLAMELESS
- RIGHTEOUS
- HONORS GOD

CHAPTERS 1+2



CATASTROPHIC DEMISE:

- RELATIONSHIPS
- FINANCIAL
- HEALTH



JOB'S WIFE

CURSE GOD
AND DIE!

ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS



CHAPTERS 3-37



CHAPTERS 3-37

BIG ASSUMPTION

HUMAN ACTION

GOD'S JUSTICE

WISE + GOOD

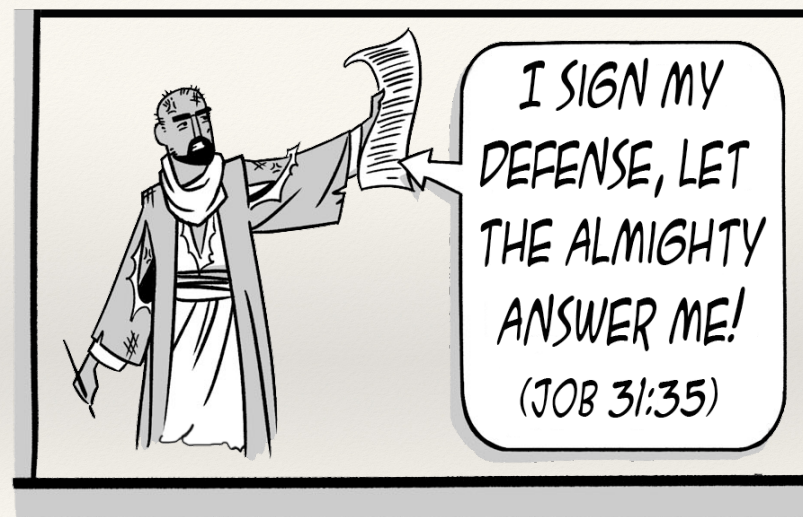


SUCCESS + REWARD

EVIL + STUPID



PUNISHMENT
DISASTER +



CHAPTERS 38-41

"WOULD YOU
DISCREDIT MY
JUSTICE? WOULD
YOU CONDEMN
ME TO JUSTIFY
YOURSELF?
- JOB 40:8



CHAPTER 42



EPILOGUE



JOB HAS DECLARED
HIMSELF INNOCENT!
-JOB 34:5



JOB DEMANDS
AN EXPLANATION!
-JOB 31:35

JOB WANTS GOD TO
VINDICATE HIM!
-JOB 13:18

CHAPTERS 38-41

GOD'S RESPONSE



1. A FRAME OF REFERENCE.

JOB: **WHAT** UNDERSTANDING DO YOU HAVE OF THE FOUNDING OF THE COSMOS?

HOW IS THE COSMOS SUSTAINED AND ORDERED?

WHO DESIGNED THE INTRICACIES OF THE ANIMAL, PLANT AND WEATHER SYSTEM?

CHAPTERS 38-41

GOD'S RESPONSE



1. A FRAME OF REFERENCE.

“WHO HAS” OR “WHO DID?” 12X

“HAVE YOU?”, “CAN YOU?”, “DO YOU?” OR “WILL YOU?” 32X

ANIMAL, PLANT AND WEATHER SYSTEM?

CHAPTERS 38-41

GOD'S RESPONSE



1. A FRAME OF REFERENCE.

JOB:

“WHO IS THIS THAT DARKENS COUNSEL BY WORDS WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE?” -JOB 38:2

ANIMAL, PLANT AND WEATHER SYSTEM?

CHAPTERS 38-42

GOD'S RESPONSE



1. A FRAME OF REFERENCE.

POINT #1: JOBS
UNDERSTANDING OF THE
COMPLEXITIES OF THE WORLD
AND IT'S ORDER ARE LIMITED.

CHAPTERS 38-42

GOD'S RESPONSE



1. A FRAME OF REFERENCE.

POINT #2: THE WORLD AS GOD HAS MADE IT IS AMAZING, BUT IT IS NOT DESIGNED TO PREVENT SUFFERING.

CHAPTERS 38-41

GOD'S RESPONSE



2. THE SILENCE OF GOD.

MOST READERS FIND IT VERY DISAPPOINTING THAT GOD NEVER ANSWERS OR GIVES JOB ANY INSIGHT AS TO WHY HE HAS HAD TO ENDURE SO MUCH SUFFERING.



CHAPTERS 40+42

JOB'S 1ST RESPONSE



40:1-5 'THE LORD SAID TO JOB: 2

"WILL THE ONE WHO CONTENDS WITH THE ALMIGHTY CORRECT HIM? LET HIM WHO ACCUSES GOD ANSWER HIM!" 3 THEN JOB ANSWERED THE LORD: 4 "I AM UNWORTHY—HOW CAN I REPLY TO YOU? I PUT MY HAND OVER MY MOUTH. 5 I SPOKE ONCE, BUT I HAVE NO ANSWER—TWICE, BUT I WILL SAY NO MORE!"

CHAPTERS 40+42

JOB'S 1ST RESPONSE

40:1-5 'THE LORD SAID TO JOB: 2



**SAYING "NOTHING MORE" IS
ESSENTIALLY ADOPTING A
STANCE OF NEUTRALITY, NOT
AFFIRMING THE TRUTH.**

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E!"

CHAPTERS 40+42

JOB'S 2ST RESPONSE

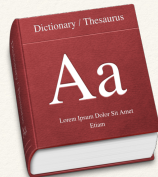
42:1-6 'THEN JOB REPLIED THE LORD: 2 "I
KNOW THAT YOU CAN DO ALL THINGS; NO
PURPOSE OF YOURS CAN BE THWARTED. 3 **SURELY
I SPOKE OF THINGS I DID NOT UNDERSTAND,
THINGS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME TO KNOW.**
5 MY EARS HAD HEARD OF YOU BUT NOW MY
EYES HAVE SEEN YOU. 6 THEREFORE I DESPISE
MYSELF AND REPENT IN DUST AND ASHES!"

vindicate | 'vində,kāt |

verb [with obj.]

clear (someone) of blame or suspicion:
*hospital staff were vindicated by the inquest
verdict.*

• **show or prove to be right,
reasonable, or justified:** *more sober views
were vindicated by events.*



CHAPTERS 40+42

JOB'S 2ST RESPONSE

42:1-6 'THEN JOB REPLIED THE LORD: 2 "I

**A FULL CONFESSION, & JOB
WHO WAS ASKING FOR
VINDICATION, GIVES IT!**

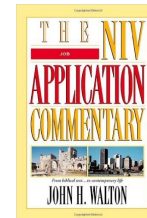
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EYES HAVE SEEN YOU. 6 THEREFORE I DESPISE
MYSELF AND REPENT IN DUST AND ASHES!"

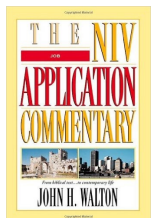
A QUESTION FOR US.

**DO YOU LOVE GOD FOR
WHAT HE GIVES YOU, OR
BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS?
CREATOR. SUSTAINER. REDEEMER.**

“You try to make sense of the world in which you live based on a very small and incomplete picture of reality. It is like looking at a parade through the tiny knothole of hurt, pain, self-centeredness, and power, and believing you are on your own and insignificant. All of these contain powerful lies.

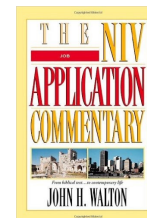


You see pain and death as ultimate evils and God as the ultimate betrayer, or perhaps, at best, as fundamentally untrustworthy. You dictate the terms and judge my actions and find me guilty.



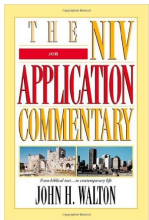
*The conversation is drawn
to a powerful conclusion:*

Mackenzie, you cannot produce trust, just as you cannot 'do' humility. It either is or is not. Trust is the fruit of a relationship in which you know you are loved. Because you do not know that I love you, you cannot trust me.”



So now we have reached the end of the matter: *trust in the wisdom of God is born of our absolute conviction that he*

loves us. That is the way through the struggles of life.



A QUESTION FOR US.

**DO YOU LOVE GOD FOR
WHAT HE GIVES YOU, OR
BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS?**

CREATOR. SUSTAINER. REDEEMER.

**JOB 1:21 "THE LORD GAVE
AND THE LORD HAS TAKEN
AWAY; MAY THE NAME OF
THE LORD BE PRAISED. "**