

Job said, "The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

The Story

A long time ago there was man named Job who believed in the True God. He was blessed by the Lord in many ways. The Lord gave Job and his wife 10 children. Seven of them were boys and three were girls. The Lord also gave Job many herds of animals. Job owned camels that could be ridden across the desert. He owned oxen that he could yoke together and plow his fields. He owned many sheep whose wool he could shear and use for clothing. Job also owned many donkeys. Job was a very rich man.

Job lived on earth, and the Lord watched Job from His place in heaven. One day, the Lord met with a group of angels, and Satan, the fallen angel that we call the devil, was there. The Lord asked him where he had come from, and Satan answered that he had come from walking around on earth. The Lord asked Satan if he had noticed Job, a faithful servant of the Lord.

"Yes," Satan replied, "but maybe Job is faithful to You because You have blessed him with many things."

Satan wanted to tempt Job to fall away from believing God, and the Lord gave Satan permission to tempt Job in any way except to hurt his body.

Satan was delighted to go out and make trouble, and he started by sending enemies to steal all of Job's oxen and donkeys and kill all of Job's servants. Next the Devil sent a fire to burn up all of the sheep. He sent more thieves to drive away all of Job's camels. Finally, Satan sent a wind storm that blew the tent down over all of Job's children

and they died. Job heard all this news and was very sad. He tore his clothes and shaved his head and was very upset, but rather than get angry with God, he said these beautiful words, "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

The Lord loved Job and again showed him as an example to Satan. Satan dared to speak to God again and said that if Job was hurt in his own body, then he would turn away from loving the Lord.

Again the Lord permitted Satan to tempt Job by hurting his body, but the Lord ordered that Satan could not kill Job.

So the Devil decided to make Job very sick with sores all over his body. The sores are called boils. Boils itch and hurt very much, and Job had these boils covering his entire body, from his head to his feet. Job felt terrible, but in all his misery, he again spoke beautiful words of confession, "I know that my Redeemer lives."

Job still believed in the Lord and knew that his Savior would be coming to take his sins away.

The Lord triumphed over the Devil. He didn't forget His servant Job, and after a time, the Lord gave back to Job all his camels, and oxen, and donkeys, and sheep. He blessed Job with seven more sons and three more daughters and it is written that Job's daughters were more beautiful than any other in the land. Job lived a long life and he enjoyed his children and grandchildren and their children.

God allowed Satan to take earthly possessions away from Job.

Activity One - Answer these Review Questions together.

- 1. Who was the man in our lesson today?
- 2. What were some of the things he had that made him very rich?
- 3. What did the LORD allow Satan to do to him?
- 4. What happened to Job's faith?
- 5. What was the next trial from Satan to Job?
- 6. How was Job's faith then?
- 7. What blessings did God give Job after the Devil took everything?

Activity Two - Look at all the pictures below. What are they? Think of Job. Circle the pictures of the blessings that were taken away and given back to Job. Which of these pictures could God give to you as a blessing?



Material wealth is "here today, gone tomorrow", but spiritual wealth lasts forever.

Passage

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

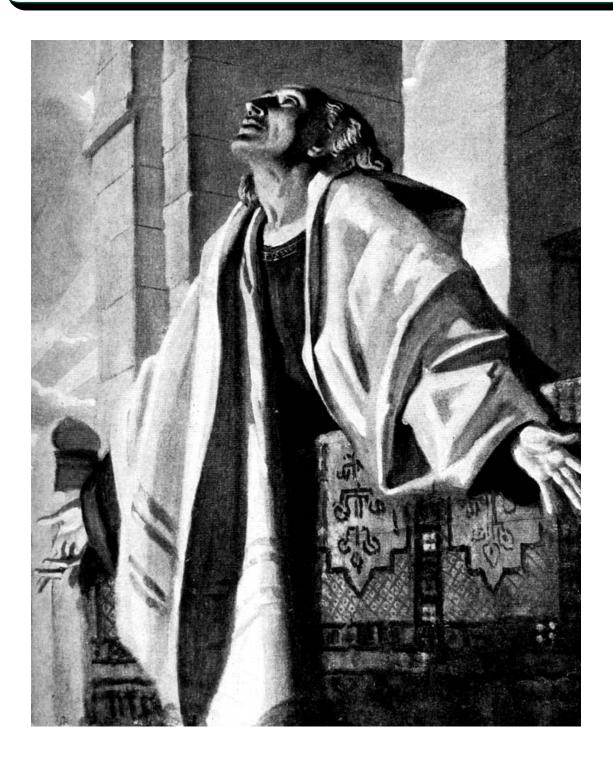
Hymn - TLH #200 or v. 1, 7

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead He lives my ever living Head.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death; He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please give me patience to accept all of the troubles You allow to come my way. Give me strength through Your powerful Word to stand firm and trust in You and Your Son, my Savior, Jesus. Thank You for the forgiveness and salvation we have through Jesus so that some day we will be in heaven. I ask this in my Savior's name. Amen.



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Job lived on earth in the land of Uz, and the Lord watched Job from His place in heaven. One day, the Lord met with a group of angels. Satan, the fallen angel whom we call the Devil, was there. The Lord asked him where he had come from. Satan answered that he had come from walking around on earth. The Lord asked Satan if he had noticed Job, a faithful servant of the Lord.

"Yes," Satan replied, "but maybe Job is faithful to You because You have blessed him with many things." Satan wanted to tempt Job to fall away from believing God. The Lord gave Satan permission to tempt Job in any way except to hurt his body.

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Job still believed in the Lord and knew that his Savior would be coming to take his sins away.

The Devil did not succeed in taking Job away from God. God didn't forget His servant Job, and after a time, the Lord gave back to Job all his camels, and oxen, and donkeys, and sheep. He also blessed Job with seven more sons

and three more daughters. It is written that Job's daughters were more beautiful than any other in the land. Job lived a long life and he enjoyed his children and grandchildren and their children.

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Activity One - Answer these questions, rearrange the letters of the answer and place the letters in the box. Then put the numbers below to make a sentence that describes Job.

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Animals that give wool. HEPS	E	5							
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Activity Two - Look at all the pictures below. What is each one? Think of Job. Circle the pictures of the blessings that were taken away and given back to Job. Which blessings does God give you that are like the blessings God gave to Job?



Earthly wealth is "here today, gone tomorrow", but spiritual wealth lasts forever.

Passages

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

James 1:2 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.

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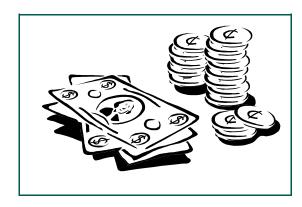
Job

Job 1-2:1-10; 19:25-27; 38:1-3; 40:1-5; 42:1-6, 10-17

Would you be able to turn down that money so that you could hear God's Word?

You may have to make that choice as you get older and decide what you should do - go to church or work at a job. With God's help you will make a good decision.

God gave a very rich man named Job the faith to love Him more than wealth.



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Please be with me today and through my life as I study Your Holy Word. Strengthen my faith so that I will be like Job and conquer every temptation of Satan with the Holy Spirit's help. Be with me today in class to listen and learn from my teacher. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The Story

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job. He was a believer in the Triune God. Job was very wealthy because he was blessed by the Lord. He had ten children, seven of them were boys and three of them were girls. Job owned 7000 sheep, 3000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 donkeys, and he had many servants.

Satan told God that Job was faithful to the Lord ONLY because the Lord had richly blessed Job with earthly treasures and possessions. Satan challenged God to take away the earthly "things", concluding that Job would curse God.

The Lord then said to Satan, "Behold all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person."

Satan then began to destroy Job's possessions. First, the Sabeans raided Job's oxen and donkeys. They killed the servants tending the animals and took every beast back to their country. Next, a fire came down and burned up all of Job's sheep and also the shepherds guarding the flock.

Then, the Chaldeans raided the grazing camel herd and took them away. They killed all of the servants except the one who had fled to Job to report the loss. Finally, a great wind destroyed the tents in which his children were feasting. All of his sons and daughters lay dead.

All of this news came to Job within a very short time. He heard it, stood up, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell to the ground and worshiped. He said, "Naked I



came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

Satan spoke with God again, saying that if someone would harm his own body, then the faithful servant would curse his Lord and Master. The Lord responded by permitting Satan to deal with Job as he wished, but the Lord would not permit Satan to end Job's life.

Satan went out and immediately struck Job with painful boils. The sores covered Job from head to foot, and Job was miserable. He sat down in a bed of ashes and used a broken piece of pottery to scratch his sores. Job's wife came and suggested the he curse God and die, but Job responded by saying, "Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?"

So Job's reaction to what happened was remarkably patient. He even made the beautiful confession, "I know that my Redeemer lives."

There were times, however, when he lost his patience. His suffering became so great that he cursed the day he was born. Three of Job's friends, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar, came to visit him. They suggested that Job's suffering was due to a sin he had committed. They advised him to repent. Finally, the LORD came and spoke with Job. He declared His power and wisdom. Job listened to the Lord and repented.

In the final verses of the story, the LORD restored twice as many camels, oxen, sheep, and donkeys to Job. Job and his wife had seven more sons and three more daughters. The daughters were more beautiful than any others in the land. Job was given a long life to enjoy all his family and possessions.

Outer Aim - God allowed Satan to take earthly possessions away from Job.

What the Story Tells Us - Answer the following from the story, unscramble the answer and write the answer in the boxes. Then use the numbers to make a confession of Job.

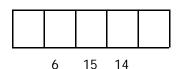
The land where the lesson takes place.

2. An animal which gives wool.

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W	hat God's Word Tells Us - Answer the following.
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Passages

4. Why are spiritual gifts more important to us?

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Romans 12:12 - rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer

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Hymn - TLH #200 v. 1, 2, 5-8

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Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

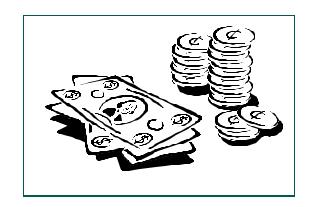
Please give me patience to accept all of the troubles, trials and tribulations that You allow to come my way. Give me strength through Your powerful Word to stand firm in my confidence and trust in You and Your Son, my Savior, Jesus. Help me to always remember that You permit these troubles to come to us Christians out of Your love for us, and that You will use them for our eternal good. Lead me to acknowledge my sins which so often bring troubles upon me. Wash me daily with Jesus' blood. Help me focus my heart upon the perfect peace and joy of the heavenly home You have promised us through Jesus. I ask this in my Savior's name. Amen.

Job

Job 1-2:1-10; 19:25-27; 38:1-3; 40:1-5; 42:1-6, 10-17

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Often Job's sons would give great parties to which they would invite all of their brothers and sisters. After each party, Job would offer up offerings to the LORD to pray for each of his children.

Job was a child of the LORD and the LORD used Job as an example to the fallen angel, Satan. Satan had noticed the

faithful servant, Job, but he dared to ask God, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

He ventured to say that Job was faithful to the LORD only because the LORD had richly blessed Job with earthly treasures and possessions. Satan challenged God to take away the earthly "things," concluding that Job would curse God.

The Lord then said to Satan, "Behold all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person."

Satan left the presence of the LORD and during one of the parties held by Job's children, he began to destroy Job's possessions. The first news came by a servant of Job who witnessed that the

Sabeans raided Job's oxen and donkeys. They killed the servants tending the animals and took every beast back to their country.

While that servant was reporting the first loss, another servant came to Job with news that a fire from heaven had come down and burned up all of Job's sheep and also the shepherds guarding the flock.

It was while that report was given that still another servant came to Job with the news that three bands of Chaldeans had raided the grazing camel herd and driven them off. They killed all of the servants except the one who had fled to Job to report the loss.

Again, a fourth servant came to Job's door to announce that a great wind had destroyed the tents in which his children were feasting. All of his sons and daughters lay dead.

All of this news came to Job within a very short time. He heard it, stood up, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell to the ground and worshiped. He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

In all this, Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

Another day came when Satan presented himself before the LORD. Again, the LORD brought Satan's attention to faithful Job. Satan quickly responded that a man could stay faithful to God even if all his possessions were stripped from him, but if you would harm his own body then the faithful servant would curse his Lord and Master.

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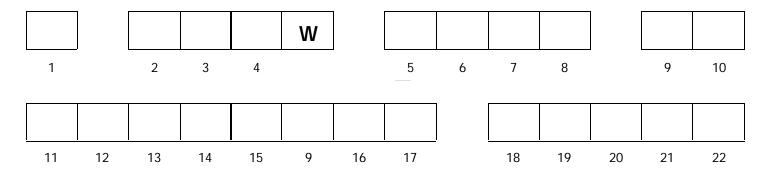
1.	The land where the lesson takes place.	ZU								
2.	An animal which gives wool.	ESPHE								
					15	14			•	
3.	Animals of the desert with humps.	MASCEL								
4.	People who work for another.	DE AVAITCE		7	9	21				
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7.	Another name for the devil.	ANAST								
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8.	These people took Job's oxen and donkeys.	SANBESA								
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- 4. Why are spiritual gifts more important to us?

Passages

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STORY

Job's Trial and Patience - Job 1, 2:1-10, 19:25-27; 38:1-3; 40:1-5; 42:1-6; 42:10-17 You may want to bring in some selected verses from chapters 38-41.

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Lord Jesus, You suffered the agonies of body and soul to redeem me, a lost and condemned sinner. Thank you for this redemption. Help me to bear with patience whatever afflictions You send me and help me to believe that You are only permitting them only for my own spiritual good. Help me look to You and Your Word again and again for strength in all the trials and temptations of my life. Guide me with Your Spirit in preparing this lesson to show this truth to the children entrusted to my care. Lord hear me for the sake of Your innocent suffering and death. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Uz - probably that portion of the Arabian Desert east of Edom sons of God - angels, called sons because they were created by God potsherd - broken piece of pottery

OUTER AIM

Job trusted in God even in the midst of tremendous suffering.

INNER AIM

God taught Job that He was in control of Job's life in good times and in bad. We learn that God gives to us only what is for our best.

BACKGROUND

The first lesson on Job entails three major portions:

- repentance and confession a. Job 1:1-5
- b. Job 1:6-22 humble submission to God's will
- c. Job 2:1-10 genuine trust in the Triune God, as opposed to hypocrisy

The second lesson is Job's confident words of trust in His Redeemer:

Job 19:25-27

The third lesson describes God's rebuke of Job for questioning God's love for him. We hear of Job's repentance and of how Job's life ends after the trials and sufferings are all over:

Job 38:1-3; 40:1-5; 42:1-6; 42:10-17

Job 1:1-5

Job exemplifies a concerned Christian father by his actions after his children's celebrations. Job was concerned about their spiritual life and would have a burnt offering sacrificed for his children, thinking "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom.

His name meant "one ever returning to God." He found nothing in all the material possessions God had given to him (they were many - ten children, 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 1,000 oxen, 500 donkeys, a large number of servants, and a great reputation) which could make his spirit rich except a sorrow over sin, and a repentant faith in a forgiving God. He craved this kind of spirituality for his children also, thus the gathering of his family for regular purification ceremonies.

Job would be ready to pray with David that beautiful penitential Psalm 51, in which the believer relies on God's mercy and grace for the forgiveness of all his transgressions. He would be at the back of the temple with the publican, smiting his breast, eyes cast down, admitting no worthiness in himself.

Applications for Job 1:1-5:

- 1) Encourage children to set aside a daily heartfelt repentance time. Bedtime is an excellent time to discuss the day's shortcomings and sincere sorrow for wrong doings. Hymn 653 v. 2 is a good prayer, "Jesus Savior, wash away..."
- 2) Discuss the unburdening of the soul to a pastor, parent, teacher or Christian friend in times of grievous sins which really trouble the conscience.
- 3) Note the sons giving feasts in their homes and inviting their sisters-family love and concern shown.
- 4) Job offered a burnt offering for each of his children-generous giver, sparing nothing for the Lord-regularly-not just when he felt like it or when he had leftovers--(widow and her mite).

Job 1:6-22

Vs. 6 the sons of God - angels, because they were created by God and in contrast to Satan and his angels, who had forfeited the right to be called by that name.

came to present themselves-to report, amid reverent shouts of praise (Isaiah 6:3) how they had done God's commands (Psalm 103:20-21) and to ask what they were to do next.

Satan...means Adversary. Enemy of God and man - delighting in injuring and harming men in their body, inflicting temporal losses of every description (John 8:44), and ultimately leading them to unbelief and a place with him in "the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." (Matt. 25:41)

- Vs. 7 from going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it. Satan walks about-prowls about as a lion, seeking whom he may devour, bodily and spiritually (I Peter 5:8)
- Vs. 8 My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth. The Lord gives Job the highest praise, a good example of a truly pious Christian Vs. 10-11 Satan wanted Job to look like a hypocrite. Day and night Satan is the accuser of God's people. Revelations 12:10, Zechariah 3:1. (He is also called the devil meaning slanderer.)
- Vs. 12 The Lord allows Satan to afflict Job and all Christians for our soul's benefit. Note the limit to which God keeps Satan, mighty but not Almighty as is God.
- Vs. 15 Sabeans...Arabian horde from Sheba, a country bordering the Red Sea.
- Vs. 16 fire of God...a terrific lightening storm or a shower of brimstone
- Vs. 17 Chaldeans...people from Chaldea (Babylonia) which was situated on both sides of the Euphrates River and bordered on the Persian Gulf.
- Vs. 20 tore his robe and shaved his head...Oriental signs of deep grief and sorrow. He had sustained an

extraordinarily heavy loss in one day:

1) his oxen and mules; 2) his sheep; 3) his camels; 4) all his servants, farm laborers, shepherds, herdsmen, and by far the greatest loss 5) all of his children.

Vs. 21 Words of a truly meek Christian: "The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." The Giver of all good gifts had a right to take from him everything that He had given him, a model of patient submission to the will of God.

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane is the supreme example of submission to God's Holy will. Review His earnest prayer before His Father's throne in full knowledge of the coming suffering, agony and tortuous death He was soon to undergo; yet, He prays "not My will but Thine be done." Uncomplainingly Jesus suffered for all of us.

STUDENT PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, please give me patience to accept all of the troubles, trials and tribulations that You allow to come my way. Give me strength through Your powerful Word to stand firm in my confidence and trust in You and Your Son, my Savior, Jesus. Help me to always remember that You permit these troubles to come to us Christians out of Your love for us, and that You will use them for our eternal good. Lead me to acknowledge my sins which so often bring troubles upon me. Wash me daily with Jesus' blood. Help me focus my heart upon the perfect peace and joy of the heavenly home You have promised us through Jesus. We ask this in our Savior's name. Amen.

PRESENTATION

- 1) Foremost in our prayers should be the words of Christ, "Thy will be done." Encourage the students to discuss the content of their prayers.
- 2) Discuss our frequent complaining attitude, despairing in adversity instead of praising God through it all. We accept the good from the Lord without question, why not the bad which we by nature deserve. Romans 5:3; James 1:2
- 3) Discuss Satan as a very real adversary, not some boogeyman out there to scare us. I Pet. 5:8
- 4) Explain the limits of Satan's powers. Show forth the omnipotence (unlimited power) of the Triune God. The Son of God on earth could even cast out demons (thousands at a time). Luke 8:26-39 We can also resist the devil with faith in Christ. I Peter 5:9

Job 2:1-10

- vs. 3 Have you considered my servant Job?... Have you observed how faithful he has remained in the great trial which has come upon him?
- vs. 4 Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life...Satan would like to see Job suffer still more, he delights in harming man.
- vs. 6 spare his life...In order to test Job's faith, the Lord permitted Satan to cause him great bodily suffering, but again He limited Satan's power.
- vs. 7 painful boils...The disease was the worst form of leprosy, with horrible ulcers or boils and a swollen condition of the joints which would make him helpless. (Rupprecht pg. 142)

- vs. 8 And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself...extreme itching from the festering sores so that he used this method to give himself some relief by scratching himself with a broken piece of pottery.
- vs. 9 his wife said...To see his wife turn from him with blasphemy on her lips only added to Job's misery. (Luther's explanation to the Sixth Petition: "the world and our flesh may not deceive us nor lead us into misbelief, hopelessness, or any other shameful or sinful acts.")
- vs. 10 shall we indeed accept good... Job reveals his strong love for God in rebuking his wife. A beautiful answer!

APPLICATION

- 1) Encourage some discussion on two-faced people, how they say one thing to someone and then turn around and do or say the opposite to someone else to look good in the eyes of all. Hypocrisy is detestable. So, too, here the devil tried to prove that Job spoke only good of the Lord when he had his health. How did Job prove the devil wrong?
- 2) Coming to church on a Sunday, singing praises, worshiping the Savior for an hour and then living like the rest of the world shows no genuineness of heart.
- 3) Job's wife tried to get him to commit blasphemy. Are we like her when our loved ones have problems and we give ungodly advice instead of Scriptural counsel? Our example to those in need or to those younger than we should be of godly concern to us. "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depths of the sea." Matt.18:6
- 4) The New Testament lesson of Ananias and Sapphira brings home with fearful power the dangerous game of playing the hypocrite. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked."
- 5) The Lord does permit some trials, troubles and temptations to come to each of us (lengthy sickness, father looses job, parents become sick, death of a loved one, friends turn against us, school work is very difficult.) But God won't tempt us beyond what we are able to bear. He will make a way to escape. I Corinthians 10:13 When these troubles come to us, God wants us to remain firm in our faith and to not turn away from Him. God cares for us. In His love He will give us only that which is best for us, even though at times it may seem that God does not love us. We never need to be afraid or worried that God will forget about us or let our troubles overcome us. II Corinthians 12:10

Job 19:25-27

Job in his anguish, pain, sorrow and grief yet yearns, hungers and thirsts after the righteousness of His God. He has no righteousness of his own with which to stand before His God. In confident faith He cries out: "I know that my Redeemer lives!" His belief that he shall see God face to face surprises many who believe that the Judeo-Christian religion was an evolutionary (progressive) teaching. How could Job who lived during the days of Abraham be so clear on such a teaching as the resurrection? Job's desire was to be clothed with Christ; his Redeemer here on earth; but even more than that, to be clothed with his Savior for an eternity. "How my heart yearns within me!"

Job 38:1-3; 40:1-5; 42:1-6

After making this remarkable confession, Job, too, began to complain and murmur about his lot in life. He felt he was being treated unfairly and cruelly by God and that he did not deserve it. God then comes to Job by speaking to him out of a whirlwind. He asked Job why he questioned HIS rulership of his life.

Job 38-41

Job speaks of God's wonderful, merciful works by means of confession of his unworthiness "Behold, I am vile; What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth...Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know...I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eyes see You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

Job 42:10-17

The LORD graciously restores to Job far more than was taken away from him. 14,000 sheep; 6,000 camels; 1,000 yoke of oxen; 1,000 female donkeys. He had seven more sons and three more daughters, the most beautiful of all the land. What a merciful God we have.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Romans 8:28a - "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God."

Middle

Romans 12:12 - "Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer."

James 1:2 - "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials."

Upper

Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

HYMN CHOICES

I Know that My Redeemer Lives - TLH #200 If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee - TLH #518 What God Ordains is Always Good - TLH #521