

Lesson 14

What About Job?

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VIDEO OUTLINE

Note: All scriptures used in this lesson are quoted from the *New King James Version*.

- I. Redemption and all of its benefits are available to everyone.
 - A. It is important to answer the questions that a lot of people have about Job, Paul's thorn in the flesh, and the man born blind. Be assured that these instances have answers that prove that God is good and not the author of evil, sickness, or disease.
 - B. You cannot be in a place of doubt and expect to receive.
 - C. Most Christians will agree that "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13). If you look up the Greek word for "saved" in this verse—*sozo*—you'll find that it refers to forgiveness, eternal life, deliverance from sin and other problems, and healing.
 - D. The subject of healing makes a lot of people uncomfortable, but healing is part of the salvation package.
 - E. We sometimes forget that God's benefits include the fact that He forgives all our iniquities and heals all our diseases.

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.

Psalm 103:1-3

- F. If you think you might be suffering like Job, or have a thorn in your flesh like Paul, or were born sick for God's glory, then the resulting doubt and unbelief is going to hinder any expectation to receive from God.
- G. In the first church in Jerusalem (after Jesus had left the scene), every sick person got healed—every single one. There was no doubt or unbelief regarding God's will to heal.

H. Unbelief hindered even Jesus in His own hometown.

Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Mark 6:5-6

II. We need to understand that Job's experience doesn't correlate with that of a New Covenant Christian.

A. Job said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away," but he later repented of that. Jesus said that it is the thief that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. Jesus knew what He was talking about. Job didn't.

Then Job answered the LORD and said: "I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

Job 42:1-6

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

B. Differences between Job's life, his world, and his reality, and a New Covenant Christian's life, world, and reality:

1. Job had no covenant with God; we have a covenant with God (James 1:17).
2. Job had no knowledge of the devil; we know all attacks are from the devil (Eph. 6:12-16).
3. Job had limited knowledge of God; we have the Bible and, therefore, know that God is good and only gives good and perfect gifts (James 1:17).
4. Job was not born again; we have redemption through Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17).

5. Job had no spiritual weapons; we have promises, gifts of the Spirit, and the armor of God (Eph. 6:12-16).
 6. Job worshipped God in ignorance; we worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24).
 7. Job lived in fear; we do not have a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Tim. 1:7).
 8. Job had no intercessor; we have the one who accomplished redemption and is seated at the right hand of God praying for us (Rom. 8:34).
- III. Paul had a thorn in the flesh. The thorn in the flesh was a messenger of Satan. It didn't come from God; it came from Satan to buffet Him.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.

2 Corinthians 12:7

- A. The thorn wasn't a sickness that God refused to heal because if God refused to heal sickness, we would have an exception to redemption.
- B. Sickness wasn't listed in Paul's trials and tribulations.

Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.

2 Corinthians 11:23-28

- C. Paul used a figure of speech, "thorn in the flesh," found in the Old Testament (Num. 33:55, Josh. 23:13, and Judg. 2:3). He was referring to an enemy that had been a persistent harassment to Israel (in the Old Testament) and to His ministry (in the New Testament).

D. Paul prayed and asked the Lord to remove the thorn.

Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:8-9

E. God did not promise to remove the Enemy from the world. He equipped us to deal with Him, and Paul knew this. He knew we were more than conquerors. The grace of God is more than enough.

And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!

2 Timothy 4:18

IV. The man born blind lived in a fallen world where sin and corruption had entered into the DNA of the human race.

And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

John 9:2-4

- A. Nobody was glorifying God for this man's blindness. It is the healing of blindness—or any affliction—that brings glory to God.
- B. Jesus went around doing good and healing everyone who was oppressed of the devil because God was with Him. God gets glory when people get healed, delivered, set free, and raised up. He delights in seeing His people step into their purpose and walk in His grace.
- C. Jesus came to glorify God. He didn't make anybody sick but healed everyone that came to Him.