

POINTS TO PONDER

- If there is something that produces doubt in your heart, no matter how small, then your faith becomes compromised. You cannot have doubt in your heart at the same time as faith.
- Expectation and doubt don't go together; faith and doubt certainly don't go together.
- Unanswered biblical questions lead to unbelief, and that's when people start to create an excuse theology. An excuse theology makes excuses for failure. We need to get these questions answered so that we're not walking in the world of excuses.
- Job didn't have a covenant with God. He assumed that God wanted to give him adversity. He didn't know any better—God does not give adversity. In the integrity of His heart, He said the things that he did, but they weren't knowledgeable statements or statements of truth concerning the reality that we now have as Christians.
- At the end of the book of Job, God appeared to him, and they had a conversation that challenged all of Job's beliefs. Job recognized his lack of knowledge and repented.
- Job represents the ignorance that destroys us. Here are some facts to consider:

Job wasn't born of a virgin.

Job wasn't full of the Holy Spirit.

Job didn't heal the sick and set the captives free.

Job didn't defeat the devil.

Job didn't die for my sins.

Job didn't descend into the lowest parts of the earth and take the keys of hell and death.

Job didn't rise from the dead.

Job didn't take his blood into the Tabernacle of God.

Job didn't sit down at the right hand of God.

Job didn't send the Holy Spirit to empower the church.

Job didn't give gifts to men.

Job didn't promise his future return to judge his enemies.

Jesus did all of that.

- So, when people ask, “What about Job?” A better response is, “What about Jesus?” Are you identifying with a man who repented for his lack of knowledge or the One who came to give you abundant life?
- You are not a Jobian. You are a Christian.
- Some people think they are like Paul with a thorn in the flesh. According to 2 Corinthians 12:7, Paul’s thorn in the flesh was because of an abundance of revelations. So, until you have an abundance of revelation comparable to Paul’s, you don’t have a thorn in the flesh like he did.
- Jesus took sin and sickness on the cross. But persecution for our faith and dealing with the Enemy are things that we have been equipped to take care of ourselves—and that is by grace.
- Because of Adam’s sin, things have happened that weren’t part of God’s original plan. Sin and corruption in the human race was the birthplace of physical afflictions. That was the case for the man born blind (John 9:2–4). It was never God’s will for Him to be born blind.
- If sickness brings God glory and He makes people sick for His glory, then why did Jesus go around healing everybody? Why didn’t He say, “Glory to God! I wish more of you were sick”? Sometimes, nonsense makes sense to the religious mind.
- The healing of sickness is an opportunity for God to be glorified. God doesn’t get glory from the sickness. The glory is in the healing.
- Every sickness is an opportunity for the kingdom of heaven to invade earth and bring glory to God. Sickness is violence against the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom of heaven suffers violence, but the violent take it by force (Matt. 11:12). We are not going to let the Enemy steal our kingdom rights, inheritance, or health. We have the right to reign in life and—by the grace of God—to say no to sickness in the name of Jesus.