

Job – Part 11

Job 26-31; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; November 20, 2016

The Point

We need endurance in trusting God even when things are inexplicably difficult. (James 5:7-11)

1. **'No help from you three!' (26:1-4)**

- 'what a help you are' (26:2)
- 'what helpful insight you have abundantly provided' (26:3)
- 'whose spirit was expressed through you' (26:4)

2. **'You don't understand as much as you think you do!' (26:5-14)**

- 'naked is Sheol before Him' (26:6)
- 'He quieted the sea with His power' (26:12)
- 'His hand has pierced the fleeing serpent' (26:13)
- 'these are the fringes of His ways' (26:14)

3. **'Despite what you say, I still maintain that I am righteous.'** (27:1-6)

- 'As God lives, who has taken away my right' (27:2)
- 'far be it from me that I should declare you right' (27:5)

4. **'You are right when you say that God judges the wicked, but that's not me, that's you!' (27:7-23)**

- 'may my enemy be as the wicked' (27:7)
- 'will he call on God at all times?' (27:10)
- 'he may prepare it but the just will wear it' (27:17)
- 'he has built his house like the spider's web' (27:18)
- 'the east wind carries him away and he is gone' (27:21)

5. **'Mankind can search and find many valuable things.'** (28:1-11)

6. **'But mankind does not really want nor can it find wisdom.'** (28:12-22)

- 'where can wisdom be found?' (28:12)
- 'the acquisition of wisdom is above that of pearls' (28:18)
- 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding' (28:28)

7. **'Wisdom belongs to God and is found in the fear of God.'** (28:23-28)

'If God would concede me His omnipotence for twenty-four hours, you would see how many changes I would make in the world. But if He gave me His wisdom, too, I would leave things as they are.' – J.M.L. Mousabre

8. 'Before all this my life was good and I was good.' (29:1-17)

- 'Oh that I were as in months gone by' (29:2)
- 'when the friendship of God was over my tent' (29:4)
- 'the old men arose and stood' (29:8)
- 'I delivered the poor who cried for help' (29:12)
- 'I put on righteousness and it clothed me' (29:14)

9. 'I expected things to always be this way.' (29:18-25)

- 'Then I thought, 'I shall die in my nest' (29:18)
- 'to me they listened and waited' (29:21)
- 'I ... dwelt as king among the troops' (29:25)

10. 'Now those who were most despised in society, despise me!' (30:1-15)

- 'But now those younger than I mock me' (30:1)
- 'Fools, even those without a name ... and now I have become their taunt' (30:9)
- 'they do not refrain from spitting at my face' (30:10)
- 'because He has loosed His bowstring and afflicted me, they have cast off the bridle before me' (30:11)

11. 'Now I am getting the opposite of what I expected and deserved.' (30:16-31)

- 'I cry out to You for help but You do not answer me' (30:20)
- 'You have become cruel to me' (30:21)
- 'For I know that you will bring me to death' (30:23)
- 'Was not my soul grieved for the needy' (30:25)
- 'When I expected good, then evil came' (30:26)
- 'My skin turns black on me and my bones burn with fever' (30:30)

12. 'If I had committed serious sins, then God would be just in treating me this way.' (31:1-28)

- 'I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?' (31:1)
- 'what is the portion of God from above ... is it not calamity to the unjust ...?' (31:2-3)
- 'Let Him weigh me with accurate scales' (31:6)
- 'If my step has turned from the way' (31:7)
- 'If I have looked at the sun when it shone ... and my heart became secretly enticed' (31:26-27)
- 'That too would have been an iniquity calling for judgment' (31:28)

13. 'But no, I have not done anything to deserve what God has done and I want Him to answer for it!' (31:29-40)

- 'Let the Almighty answer me!' (31:35)
- 'Like a prince I would approach Him' (31:37)
- 'If my land cries out against me' (31:38)