



# my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 2, Day 1 --- Job 18-19

Week 2, Day 2 --- Job 20-24

Week 2, Day 3 --- Job 25-28

Week 2, Day 4 --- Job 29-31

Week 2, Day 5 --- Job 32-34

Week 2, Day 6 --- Job 35-37

Week 2, Day 7 --- Job 38-39

Week 2, Day 1 --- Job 18-19

Bildad responds by giving his own perception of death and it sounds a lot like hell. He is right that most people die and quickly are forgotten. A few grieve and mourn, but life goes on and very few people make it into the history books and are remembered.

Job realizes this, but his concern is that he has been forgotten while he still lives. He is isolated from all human contact except for these three comforters who are no comfort. What is happening through all this? Notice this verse:

I know that my redeemer lives,  
and that in the end he will stand on the earth. Job 19:25 (NIV)

In spite of the fact that Job does not understand what is going on and that he blames God for everything Job still desires God. Job's heart has been revealed during his suffering. His greatest desire is for God and that is why God had such great confidence in Job and was willing to let him do battle with Satan.

Are Job's friends working for Satan or for God?  
Who is winning the battle for Job right now, Satan or God?

Week 2, Day 2 --- Job 20-24

Have you ever been in an argument where both people involved are absolutely convinced they are right? Their voices get louder and louder. In most arguments like this it isn't long before the name calling begins and if it goes on very long the argument might get physical. Job's comforters are frustrated. They are convinced that he is guilty of some great sin and that this is why he is suffering. They are convinced that he is being punished. In their minds this has to be true or they are in great trouble.

Job does not respond directly to their accusations. Instead, he continues to turn toward God. In some ways he desires the same thing that his comforters assume is happening. Job desires justice. He desires that the wicked who spend their lives in darkness be punished now for their wickedness.

Job speaks a great truth, but I don't think he knows exactly what he is saying.

But he knows the way that I take;  
when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold. Job 23:10 (NIV)

This is God's love and goodness at work. Job is being tested. God is confident that he will pass the test and that the result will be even greater purity in Job's life. Suffering comes as a test. When you are suffering do you turn toward God or away from God? What do you learn from Job's example?

#### Week 2, Day 3 --- Job 25-28

Job and his comforters agree on one thing. The wicked are not rewarded in the long-term. They die and lose all they have accumulated. In general their families suffer for generations after them. The life of an evil person may appear to be good now, but in the end it does not pay. From our perspective we know this is true. The person who lives this life without God will spend eternity without God. That is hell and I don't want to be there and be without God forever.

Job and his comforters also disagree on one thing. They are certain that Job is guilty of great evil. It must be a great evil to justify his great suffering. Job is not guilty and will not change his mind about that for anyone.

This passage ends with a chapter on wisdom. Wisdom is a rare thing and it must be sought after. I wonder what caused men to first dig in the earth for precious stones and metals. Whatever the reason once the first precious stone was found and polished others began digging and searching. It should be that way with wisdom. Some have searched and found it. However, it isn't that way with wisdom. Most of the world pursues foolishness. Don't miss the last verse of this passage. It is the key to life.

#### Week 2, Day 4 --- Job 29-31

The words of Job are not ended with this section because God will come and ask for a response. Job has the same expectation and understanding as his comforters and that is why he is confused. His expectation for all the good that he did was that he would be blessed with health and wealth. For all of his life until very recently this had been true. Now he is confused and disappointed. He is doubting God's goodness which is the very thing that Satan wants him to doubt.

What do you think will happen now? How will all this be resolved?

#### Week 2, Day 5 --- Job 32-34

Elihu's argument is a little different. The one thing he gets right is the character of God. God is sovereign and this means that God is completely in charge. God is also not silent. The difficulty is that we want God to shout and more often than not He wants us to be quiet and listen. Elihu finds Job rebellious. Do you think Job is being rebellious in his comments to God?

#### Week 2, Day 6 --- Job 35-37

I'm not certain that even Elihu knows it, but his purpose is to announce God. God is about to show up and he is preparing the way. He doesn't really understand what is going on any better than anyone else, but he does understand that God is good and that God has a purpose to be trusted. The following verse summarizes what he is saying.

Beware of turning to evil,  
which you seem to prefer to affliction. Job 36:21 (NIV)

It does not matter what caused the difficulty we are in. What matters are our choices about how to deal with the affliction. When trouble comes of any kind we have a choice to make, this is especially true with any kind of physical suffering. We can look for a way out of the trouble and Satan is only too willing to offer a number of choices, generally quick fixes, that will allow us to temporarily escape the trouble we feel. God offers us another choice. That choice is to endure the trouble, trial, suffering, or affliction and learn from it. God's desire is that we go through trials and that we grow stronger through them. God's desire is that we go through trials and that we grow closer to Him as we depend on Him.

I'm currently in Florida and we had a thunderstorm the other night. The rain came down in huge quantities and the thunder rolled. I'm certain the water is needed, but the rain, thunder, and lightening also damaged things. Some people were probably thanking God for the rain and others were probably cursing God because of the rain. What are you choosing to do as God speaks into your situation?

Week 2, Day 7 --- Job 38-39

God finally speaks. Read this passage through several times. Maybe the first time you read it think about the God who is speaking as if He is your father. How does it sound? What do you hear?

No matter how many times you have read this I want you to read it one last time. This time read it remembering that God is love. God desires the absolute best for you, just as He desires the absolute best for Job. God is good. In fact, He is the only one who is truly good. There is no evil in God. There is no selfishness in God. There is no darkness in God. How does it sound now? What do you hear God saying to you?