

**The Bible is God's story of creation,
rebellion, redemption and new creation
with Jesus at the center**



5 Books of Wisdom and Poetry

- **God provides wisdom for everyday life**
 - **From life's big questions to the celebration of true love through praise, instruction, and the search for meaning**



**Job offers comfort when life
is not going well**



Listen to Job

- **Job 1-5—the set up**
- **Job 4-27—the debate**
- **Job 28-31—Job's final defense**
- **Job 32-37—Elihu jumps in**
- **Job 38:1-42:6—God speaks and Job repents/is comforted**
- **Job 42:7-17—the epilogue**



“If you ask people who don’t believe in God why they don’t, the number one reason will be suffering. If you ask people who believe in God when they grew most spiritually, the number one answer will be suffering.”

—John Ortberg, Soul Keeping



Learn from Job

- **Human suffering is mysterious but not useless.**



⁷"Remember: who that was innocent ever perished? Or where were the upright cut off? ⁸As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same.



⁹By the breath of God they perish, and by the blast of his anger they are consumed.

¹⁰The roar of the lion, the voice of the fierce lion, the teeth of the young lions are broken.

Job 4:7-10



**But a stupid man will get understanding
when a wild donkey's colt is born a man!**

Job 11:12



It is all one; therefore I say, He destroys both the blameless and the wicked. When disaster brings sudden death, he mocks at the calamity of the innocent. The earth is given into the hand of the wicked; he covers the faces of its judges—if it is not he, who then is it?

Job 9:22-24



¹Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: ²"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?



³Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. ⁴"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

Job 38:1-4



"Is it by your understanding that the hawk soars and spreads his wings toward the south? Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up and makes his nest on high?"

Job 39:26-27



**¹And the Lord said to Job: ²"Shall a
faultfinder contend with the Almighty? He
who argues with God, let him answer it."
³Then Job answered the Lord and said:**



⁴"Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. ⁵I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but I will proceed no further."



⁶Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: ⁷"Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me.



⁸Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be in the right? ⁹Have you an arm like God, and can you thunder with a voice like his?

Job 40:1-9



Learn from Job

- **Human suffering is mysterious but not useless. It can:**
 - **Increase our endurance—James 5:11**
 - **Clarify the true Object of our Faith—Job 1:9**
 - **Build our trust—Job 13:15**
 - **Recalibrate our values—Job 31:24-28**
 - **Sharpen our picture of God—Job 42:5**
 - **Force us to finally admit that we are not in control—Job 42:6**

“Control is a drug and we are all hooked.”

—*Kate Bowler*



Live by Job

- **Speak up—Job 42:7**
- **Show up, but quiet down—Job 2:11-13
4:12-17**



“There is an acronym that I’ve now started using in my own life—‘WAIT.’ Which stands for, why am I talking? You should just sit and start listening to everybody that comes across your way and you’ll be amazed at what you learn.”

—Tom Hanks



Let others know about Job

- **Human suffering does not have the last word**



For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!



Job 19:25-27