# "Book of Job — Part 5"

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I conclude the five-part series about the book of Job. The title of that presentation was "Book of Job — Part 5."

Following were the five parts of the series.

1. God Started the Trial — (chapters 1-3).

2. Job Responded to His 3 Friends — (chapters 4-11).

3. Elihu Confronted Job — (chapters 32-37).

4. God Confronted Job Twice — (chapters 38-41).

5. Comparison between Job 40:2 and Job 42:1-6.

## Simple descriptions

Here are the simple descriptions of the two verses of that presentation.

- Job 40:2—Job's sin

- Job 42:1-6—Job's repentance

## Job's sin

Remember that the Lord confronted Job two times. The first confrontation went from Job 38:1 to Job 40:2. A clear description of Job's sin is quoted in Job 40:2.

- Job 40:2—The Lord said: "Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it."

## Quite a contrast

Do you recognize how different Job's attitude was from his initial reactions?

- Job 1:20-22—"In all this, Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong."
- Job 2:10—"In all this, Job did not sin with his lips."
- Job 3:1-26—Then, we see the report of Job's strong complaining.

## Blame the three friends?

Bible students know that the Lord ultimately cast some blame on the three friends.

- Job 42:7-8—The Lord said to Eliphaz: "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends."

But Job's complaining began before the three friends started talking to him in chapter 4. In fact, the three friends originally set a wonderful example of helping someone with grieving.

- Job 2:13—The three friends sat down with Job for seven days and seven nights without speaking a word to him — for they saw that his grief was very great.

## What changed?

What happened to cause Job to go from not sinning with his lips (in chapters one and two) to excessive complaining with his lips (in chapter three)?

While the book of Job is silent about the cause of the transformation, we can learn lessons from the rest of the Bible.

Most Bible students believe that Satan the devil did to Job what he did throughout the Bible.

- Genesis 3:1-4—The cunning serpent was a negative influence upon Adam and Eve — so we also conclude that he was a negative influence upon Job.
- Matthew 4:1-11—The devil sought to be a bad influence upon Christ, but he failed in this attempt.

## Job acknowledged some sin

After the first confrontation, Job did acknowledge some sin.

- Job 40:4—Job said: "Behold, I am vile."

This example can help people analyze the subject of God's grace. Some religious people say that people can receive God's grace without ever having to say: "I'm sorry" — yet Job said: "I am vile." and the trial continued.

## Was not enough

The second confrontation went from Job 40:7 to Job 41:34. What did the Lord want from Job? God wanted something different or wanted something more.

## More than words

In Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus Christ taught that a relationship with Him is more than religious words.

- Matthew 7:21—More than saying "Lord, Lord."

- Matthew 7:22—More than prophecy, more than casting out demons and more than wonders.

- Matthew 7:23—Does the Lord "know" you?

## Job's repentance

- Job 42:3—Job said: "I have uttered what I did not understand — things too wonderful for me, which I did not know."

- Job 42:5—Job said: "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You."

## Helpful reminders

- Matthew 20:25—Recognize those who seek to lord it over people. Recognize those who seek to exercise authority over people.

- Matthew 26:37-44—Jesus Christ endured suffering and sought to do His Father's will.