

God's Calling in the Old Testament

Lesson Six

GOD CALLED JOB - A RIGHTEOUS MAN (Job 1:1)
TESTED BY GOD (chapters 1-2)
GOD'S APPEARING (38:1-4)
JOB'S REPENTANCE (40:3-4; 42:1-6)
JOB'S LATTER END (42:7-17)

Burden to Impart:

In this lesson we see how God allowed even the dearest servant He had on the earth to be sorely tested and afflicted by Satan. His afflictions were not because he had sinned against God and was being punished. Rather, they were allowed to purify Job as gold is purified and refined through fire (Job 23:20) so that Job could know himself, know God in a deeper way, and be more blessed by God than he had ever been before.

Memory Verse: "Should He try me, I would come forth as gold" (Job 23:10b).

Facts to Teach:

1. Job as a righteous man who feared God, abstained from evil, and loved God's Word (Job 23:12).
2. He was very precious in God's eyes. God Himself even boasted to Satan that there was none like His servant Job in the whole earth.
3. Satan mocked God's boast by telling God that Job only feared God because God blessed him, or bribed him. Satan declared to God that if all of Job's blessings were removed, he would curse God to His face.
4. God tested Job by allowing Satan to cause him sufferings in two stages:
 - a. First, all of Job's riches and cattle were taken away. Also, the most dear things to Job were destroyed; his 7 sons and 3 daughters died when the house fell on top of them. Job passed the test and did not curse God (as Satan said he would). Rather, he worshipped God and said, "Jehovah gives and Jehovah takes away; Blessed be the name of Jehovah " (Job 1:20-21).
 - b. Second, Job was tested more sorely when his own body was smitten with boils, from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head (2:7). When tempted by his wife to curse God and die to end his misery, Job again passed the test and answered, "Should we receive the good from God but not receive the ill? In all this Job did not sin with his lips" (2:10).
5. However, as time passed by and Job's sufferings continued, he began to weaken and to complain to God that he was suffering unfairly. His friends told him that he must have sinned, for which cause God was punishing him. Job protested by declaring that he had not sinned (27:5-6) and then boasted of all of his goodness and greatness.
6. Eventually, God appeared to His dear servant Job. The long "night" was over. The test had done its perfect work. God did not test Job because he had sinned, but so that Job would know God and also know himself. In God's presence Job felt very regretful and sorry for the self-righteous, self-justifying attitude he expressed toward God during the

test he was suffering; an attitude full of reasonings, arguments, pride, self-righteousness, and self-vindication.

7. Job sincerely repented before the Lord and hated his self.
8. God had purified and refined his dear servant, Job. He came forth as gold (23:10). God blessed Job even more now than in the beginning. He had twice the riches, a new family and four generations of descendants besides , and a long life. He also now knew himself more truly , and he knew His God as never before.