THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

6/25 – Job 4-6, Acts 7:20-43 6/29 – Job 16-18, Acts 9:1-22 6/26 – Job 7-9, Acts 7:44-60 6/30 – Job 19-20, Acts 9:23-43 6/27 – Job 10-12, Acts 8:1-25 7/1 – Job 21-22, Acts 10:1-23 6/28 – Job 13-15, Acts 8:26-40 7/2 – Job 23-25, Acts 10:24-48

JOB

Job was a very rich man, and although he did not belong to the people of Israel, he worshiped the Lord and was a truly good person. But Satan talked to God and accused Job of serving God only because God was blessing him. God agreed to let Satan take away Job's wealth, his children, and finally, his health, to see whether Job would stay faithful to God. Job did remain faithful.

Then three of Job's friends came to comfort him. They believed that health and prosperity were signs of God's blessing. And because Job had lost both his health and his prosperity, the three friends insisted that God must be punishing Job for some sin. Job answered that he was innocent and this meant that they were wrong. Job and the friends argued back and forth, with neither side really proving the other wrong, although at the end of the argument, the friends gave up.

Job was suffering deeply, and several times during the argument he asked God to appear and explain the reason for his suffering. Then, after the friends stopped speaking, Job decided that human beings cannot find the kind of wisdom that gives answers to the deep questions of life. Only God has that wisdom. Job ended his speeches by swearing that he was innocent of doing wrong.

At this point, a young bystander named Elihu began talking. He repeated some of what had already been said, but he also criticized both sides of the argument. Elihu finished with a poem praising God's care for nature.

God finally did appear to Job, but he did not explain Job's suffering. Instead, God showed that the many things he does cannot be understood by humans; humans cannot do what God does. God criticized Job for talking so much when he knew so little, but he also said that Job had remained his faithful servant. And so, at the very end, the book tells how God blessed Job and made him twice as wealthy as he had been before.

Job never did understand why he had suffered; he felt bitter, but he never rejected God or turned away from him. Job was convinced that someday, God would rescue him.

OUTLINE

- I. Job Loses His Wealth, Family, and Health (1:10-2:13)
- II. Job Curses the Day of His Birth (3:1-26)
- III. The First Round of Debate (4:1-14:22)
- IV. The Second Round of Debate (15:1-21:34)
- V. The Third Round of Debate (22:1-26:14)
- VI. Job's Closing Statements (27:1-30:31)
- VII. Job Swears that He is Innocent (31:1-40)
- VIII. Elihu's Speeches (32:1-37:24)
- IX. God's First Speech (38:1-39:30)
- X. God's Second Speech and Job's Responses (40:1-42:6)
- XI. The Lord Again Blesses Job with Health, Wealth, and Family (42:7-17)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

Job4: Eliphaz said, "Will you become impatient? When did the innocent ever perish? I heard a voice: 'Can a man be more righteous than God?'"

Job5: "Who will answer you? Man is born to trouble. As for me, I would seek God. Do not despise his discipline. He wounds, but he binds up."

Job6: Job said, "My misery would outweigh the sand of the seas! You have proved no help. Show me how I have been wrong! Would I lie to you?"

Job7: "O God, my life is but a breath! Therefore I will speak out. What is man, that you examine him? Why have you set me as your target?"

Job8: Bildad said, "Does God pervert justice? Learn from past generations. He will not reject the blameless, nor will he uphold evildoers"

Job9: Job said, "How can a man dispute with God? His power is vast! But he destroys the innocent. If only there were a mediator between us!"

^{**} Summaries/outlines from The Holy Bible, Contemporary English Version, ©1995 by the American Bible Society.

- Job10: "God, why do you reject the work of your hands? You know that I am not guilty! Why did you bring me out of the womb? Leave me alone."
- Job11: Zophar said, "Should your babble go unanswered? God exacts less than your guilt deserves! Reach out to him and you will find hope."
- Job12: Job said, "Who does not know all these things? With God are wisdom and power. He brings darkness into light. He destroys nations"
- Job13: "I want to argue my case with God. Be quiet and I will speak. Though he slay me, I will hope in him. God, why do you hide your face?"
- Job14: "Man is like a fleeting shadow. If a tree is cut down, it will sprout again, but will a man live again? You overpower him forever."
- Job15: Eliphaz said, "Your own mouth condemns you! Why do you turn against God? The wicked will be like a vine stripped of unripe grapes."
- Job16: Job said, "You're miserable comforters! God has torn me and shattered me. But my prayer is pure. Even now, my advocate is on high!"
- Job17: "My spirit is broken. He has made me a byword. But come again all of you! I will not find a wise man among you. Where is my hope?"
- Job18: Bildad said, "Why are we stupid in your sight? Indeed, the light of the wicked goes out. His roots dry up and his branches wither"
- Job19: Job said, "How long will you torment me? God counts me as an enemy. My closest friends abhor me. But I know that my redeemer lives!"
- Job20: Zophar said, "My understanding inspires me to answer. The triumph of the wicked is short. His food will turn sour in his stomach."
- Job21: Job said, "Listen to me. Why do the wicked grow mighty? How often do they have trouble? Who repays them? Your answers are empty!"
- Job22: Eliphaz said, "Is not your wickedness great? You withheld bread from the hungry. Is not God high? Submit to him and be at peace."
- Job23: Job said, "If only I knew where to find God! When he has tested me, I shall come forth as gold. But he does whatever he pleases."
- Job24: "The wounded cry out, but God charges no one with wrong. Some rebel against the light; they are exalted a while, and then are gone."
- Job25: Bildad said, "Dominion and awe belong to God. Who can be righteous before him? Even the stars are not pure in his sight!"

ACTS

OUTLINE

- I. Telling the Good News in Jerusalem (1:1-8:3)
- II. The Good News in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)
- III. Paul's First Journey to Tell the Good News (13:1-14:28)
- IV. An Important Decision in Jerusalem (15:1-35)
- V. Paul's Second Journey to Tell the Good News (15:36-18:22)
- VI. Paul's Third Journey to Tell the Good News (18:23-21:16)
- VII. Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (21:17-23:22)
- VIII. Paul is Taken to Caesarea (23:23-26:23)
- IX. Paul is Taken to Rome (27:1-28:31)

BIBLE BLURB (from @biblesummary)

- Acts7: Stephen said, "Brothers, God called Abraham and appeared to Moses. You killed the Righteous One." They were enraged and stoned him.
- Acts8: Philip proclaimed Christ in Samaria. A magician offered money for the gift of the Spirit. Philip baptised an Ethiopian official.
- Acts9: Saul went to arrest the believers. Jesus said, "Why do you persecute me?" Saul was baptised and began preaching. Peter raised Dorcas
- Acts10: Cornelius sent for Peter. The Lord said to Peter, "Do not call them unclean." Peter preached to the Gentiles and the Spirit fell.

Getting to Know God Through His Book - 4 Questions - Ask...

Insight—what does the passage say? Paraphrase the main point(s) and the commands to follow, promises to claim, examples to follow (or avoid), etc.

Question—what don't I understand? Need to know more about? How does this passage make me feel?

Praise—what does this passage teach me about God? Turn what the passage says into praise for the Lord's goodness, power, holiness, wisdom, etc.

Apply—what is God saying to me from this passage? Confess how you have not followed it. Pray, asking God to help you obey. Get quiet and ask God to speak to you.

Journal—write out your prayers, thoughts, responses to God and His Word

HOW TO PRAY

Scripture is God speaking to us. Prayer is us speaking to and listening to God. Jesus gave us the model in the Lord's Prayer (Mt 6). Keep your relationship fresh with the Lord by both reading and praying - two way communication. Remember to look up like Jesus did when He prayed.

- 1. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name focus on God, adore, praise, thank Him long to see His glory and honor.
- 2. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done ask for what you know will please Him, pray back the Scripture that is His will.
- 3. Give us this day our daily bread ask for your needs and others to be met.
- 4. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us ask for forgiveness, from God, and from others you may have hurt. Ask God to help you forgive and restore others too. Ask Him to get rid of bitterness and have love & compassion for those who have hurt you.
- 5. And lead us not into temptation ask God to take over your day, protect you and others from evil.
- 6. For thine is the kingdom, power & glory end by re-focusing on God, His kingdom, power, and glory!
- 7. Listen ask God to speak to you by His Spirit always test what you hear by His Word.
- 8. Pray the Blind Bartimaeus Prayer (Mark 10) Tell God what you feel, what you want, and ask God what you should do to get what you want (if what you want is right).