Suggestions for Reading

It is important in studying any book of the Bible to read the book as many times as possible, to get the over-all message of the book in mind. Then, under the blessing of God, you will be able to see how each part fits into the message of the book.

The preferable way to read a book of the Bible is, from beginning to end, and at one sitting. However, with the longer books of the Bible, such as Job, this is not always possible. Therefore, you may find the following plan more practical:

Monday -- Job 1-3 Tuesday -- Job 4-14 Wednesday -- Job 15-21 Thursday -- Job 22-31 Friday -- Job 32-37 Saturday -- Job 38-42

These chapter divisions are not equal, but they form the various units, or sections, of the book.

In case you have difficulty doing this along with the other Bible reading you are doing, you may want to read the book through as soon as you can, and then re-read it every three or four weeks. In the intervening time you can read the particular section from which our lesson for the following Wednesday will be taken. Thus, while we are studying Job 1, you would read Job 1-3 as many times as you can. But do not neglect the reading of the whole book because only then will you be able to grasp the relationship of the various sections to each other and to the entire book.

If these plans do not appeal to you, work out your own schedule. The important thing is that you are reading Job, and that you continue to read it, in whatever way is best for you.

The book of Job is easy to divide into its various parts, but it is a book that has many problems when it comes to interpretation. This should not discourage us; instead, it should serve as a reminder to us that we need the Holy Spirit and His teaching in order to understand any book of the Bible. And so it is important that we pray — before we read, as we read, and after we read. Confess any sin that you are aware of. It will stand in the way of your study. Seek cleansing from the Lord. Pray that the Lord will give you understanding.

This book is included in Paul's statement in 2 Timothy 3:16, 17. And so let us pray that our study of this neglected book of Scripture will prove to be very "profitable" for all of us, and that God will be glorified in all of the time that we devote to it.

Remember that, by the grace of God, the more you put into your study, the more you will get out of it!

Lesson 2 -- Job 1:13-22

- 1. How many calamities did Job experience in this first assault by Satan?
- 2. In what period of time did the calamities occur -- a day, a week, a month, a year, or longer?
- 3. How did Job find out about each calamity?
- 4. What were Job's sons and daughters doing at the time?
- 5. Describe what the Sabeans did. How many animals were involved? See Job 1:3.
- 6. What happened to the sheep, and to the servants who were caring for the sheep? How many sheep were involved? See Job 1:3.
- 7. Describe what the Chaldeans did. What animals, and how many, did Job lose to them? See Job 1:3.
- 8. Were there any other troubles that Job had at this time? If so, describe what happened telling who was involved?
- 9. How did Job react to his trouble; that is, what did he do, and what did he say?
- 10. What did Job not do that he might have done?
- 11. What evidence do you see from Job's behavior as described in verses 20 through 22 which prove that he was the kind of man that the Lord said he was (as recorded in verse 8; see also verse 1)?
- 12. What evidence is there that Job believed in the sovereignty of God? What effect did this have upon his reaction to all of his troubles? What is there about the doctrine of God's sovereignty which might have inclined Job to charge God foolishly (which means, to blame God)?
- 13. Why was it that there does not seem to have been any bitterness in Job's heart toward the Sabeans, toward the Chaldeans, or even toward the weather?

Lesson 3 -- Job 2:1-13

- 1. Where in chapter 1 are there verses which are almost identical to the first three verses of chapter 2? How is the account in Job 2:1-3 different?
- 2. On this occasion, what charge did Satan make against all men? Against Job?
- 3. What did God say that Satan could do to Job? What did He say that Satan could not do to him?
- 4. What did Satan do to Job?
- 5. After Job was afflicted, what did he do?
- 6. What did Job's wife say to him? Where is Job's "integrity" mentioned earlier in the chapter?
- 7. How did Job respond to his wife?
- 8. What were the names of Job's three friends?
- 9. Why did they come to see Job?
- 10. What is said in verse 12 to indicate how terribly Job's body had been affected by what Satan had done to him?
- 11. How did Job's friends express their grief?
- 12. How long was it before they spoke to Job? Why?
- 13. Consider the truth or falseness of the following statements, and give a reason for your answer in each case:
 - (1) Satan has access to the presence of God as well as to the earth.
 - (2) All that Satan says is wrong.
 - (3) There is no evidence of the sovereignty of God in this chapter.
 - (4) Job's wife failed in her duty as a wife by what she advised her husband to do. (See God's purpose for wives as stated in Genesis 2:18.)
 - (5) Job had peace because he knew that he would recover from his physical trouble. (The first part of the statement is true; what about the reason?)

Lesson 4 -- Job 3:1-26

- 1. In this chapter we have the first extended expression of Job's reaction to all of his trials. What is the general tone of the chapter; that is, what feelings does he express?
- 2. The chapter has three divisions:
 - 1) Verses 1-10.
 - 2) Verses 11-19.
 - 3) Verses 20-26.

In the first section Job mentioned "the day" and "the night." To what was he referring in each case?

- 3. What did he say about "the day"?
- 4. What did he say about "the night"?
- 5. In the second section (verses 11-19), what regret did he express?
- 6. If his desire had been granted, what, did he say, would have been his condition at that time?
- 7. With whom would he have been?
- 8. What was bothering Job according to what you read in the third section (verses 20-26)? What questions did he ask?
- 9. What do verses 25 and 26 tell you about Job's life before this, as well as his condition as he spoke?
- 10. What did Job have to say about God throughout the entire chapter?
- 11. If you had been a friend of Job, would you have been pleased with his words, or disappointed? Why?
- 12. If you had been a friend of Job, what would you have said to him?

Lesson 5 -- Job 4, 5

The First Speech of Eliphaz

- 1. How did Eliphaz feel about speaking to Job? See Job 4:1. 2.
- 2. What inconsistency did Eliphaz see in Job according to his words in Job 4:3-6?
- 3. What did Eliphaz say was the reason for Job's trouble? How did he seek to prove what he said? See Job 4:7-11.
- 4. In what way did Eliphaz claim to have received special knowledge? How did it affect him? What did he learn from it? See Job 4:12-21.
- 5. To "call" in Job 5:1 means to lift up one's voice in a protest against what had happened. Job had done this in chapter 3. How did Eliphaz describe the person who would do such a thing? See Job 5:2, 3. Did he directly accuse Job of having done it?
- 6. How, according to Eliphaz, would such an attitude affect one's family? See Job 5:4, 5. Did this seem to be true in the case of Job's family? Why?
- 7. What did Job need to realize about life, in the opinion of Eliphaz? See Job 5: 6, 7.
- 8. What did Eliphaz say that he would do if he had been in Job's place? See Job 5:8.
- 9. What did Eliphaz say about God which would have given Job some hope? See Job 5:9-16.
- 10. How did Eliphaz explain Job's sufferings and losses according to Job 5:17?
- 11. List all of the things that Eliphaz said that God would do for Job, as expressed Job 5:18-27.
- 12. Taking into consideration all that Eliphaz said to Job in Job 4 and 5, do you agree with Eliphaz, or disagree, or both? Explain. Where possible, give other Scriptures to support your answers.

Lesson 6 -- Job 6, 7

Job's First Response to Eliphaz

Read chapters 6 and 7 of Job before answering the following questions.

It will be helpful to notice that in all of chapter 6 and up through verse 6 of chapter 7, Job was addressing Eliphaz, and with him, Bildad and Zophar. But from verse 7 of chapter 7 on to the end of that chapter, Job was addressing God.

- 1. How did Job justify his grief in Job 6:1-7?
- 2. What did Job continue to desire according to what we read in Job 6:8-13? Why did he desire it? Show in Job 3 where he spoke of the same desire?
- 3. From Job 6:14 to the end of chapter 6 Job was speaking directly to his friends.
 - a. How did he rebuke them?
 - b. What had he not asked them to do for him?
 - c. What did he want them to do for him?
 - d. How did he feel about his own guilt as the cause of his sufferings?
- 4. How did Job justify his desire to die in the first six verses of chapter ??
- 5. Job's prayer in chapter 7 has a threefold division: verses 7-10, 11-16, 17-21.
 - a. In the first part, what did he say that death would do for him?
 - b. In the second part, show how this urged him on in his desire to die.
 - c. What are the two main questions in the third part of his prayer which Job was asking God?
- 6. From what Job said in these two chapters, would you agree with him? If so, on what points? Would you disagree with him at all? If so, how?
- 7. From your understanding of Scripture, what can you think of that Job must have been overlooking, truths which would have been a comfort to him?

Lesson 7 -- Job 8

The First Speech of Bildad

Read over chapter 8 a couple of times before you answer the following questions. Each week, as time permits, re-read the preceding chapters (from chapter 1 on, if possible), to keep what has gone on before fresh in your mind.

- 1. With whom was Bildad in agreement, Job or Eliphaz? Prove your answer.
- 2. What did Bildad say about Job's response to Eliphaz? See verse 2. What did Bildad mean by the expression he used in verse 2?
- 3. Answer the questions in verse 3. How did Bildad try to show Job that the death of his children did not need to keep him from seeking help from the Lord? See verses 4-7. What did Bildad say would be the result if Job did seek the Lord?
- 4. What did Bildad advise Job to do in verses 8 through 10? Why?
- 5. In the light of what Bildad told Job to do in verses 8 through 10, where, then, can we assume that Bildad learned the things that he told Job in verses 11 through 19?
- 6. What kind of a person was Bildad describing in verses 11 through 19? (One verse in that passage states the answer very clearly.)
- 7. There are at least three illustrations which Bildad used to describe the kind of a person indicated in your answer to Question 6. What are the illustrations? How do they seem to support Bildad's point-of-view?
- 8. In the last three verses of chapter 8, Bildad summarized his speech. In your own words, tell what he said.
- 9. Looking back over the entire chapter,
 - a. What good advice did Bildad give to Job?
 - b. On what points do you agree with what Bildad said to Job?
 - c. How would you disagree with Bildad?

Lesson 8 -- Job 9, 10

Job's First Response to Bildad

Re-read as many of the preceding chapters of Job as your time permits, but by all means re-read chapter 8 in order to be able to see how Job was responding in chapters 9 and 10 to what Bildad had said.

In Job 9:1-10:1 Job was speaking to Bildad. In that section there is a part in which Job was describing how he spoke to God: Job 9:27-31. The second and last section of Job's response is entirely a prayer: Job 10:2-22.

- 1. In what way did Job express his agreement with what Bildad had said? How, in the first 10 verses of chapter 9, did Job prove from nature that God is "mighty in strength"?
- 2. What evidence of despair, and perhaps of even sarcasm, do you see in Job's words found in verses 11 through 21 of chapter 9? How was this related to what Job believed about God's sovereignty?
- 3. In the verses mentioned in Question 2, what accusations did Job make against God?
- 4. What two conclusions did Job express in Job 9:22-24?
- 5. In Job 9:25-10:1 Job returned to a subject which had been prominently expressed by him before. What was it?
- 6. Why did Job feel hopeless about his relationship to God? See Job 9:27-35.
- 7. What was the attitude which Job expressed toward God in his prayer recorded in Job 10:2-22?
- 8. From the prayer in chapter 10, answer the following questions:
 - a. What questions did Job ask God at the beginning of his prayer?
 - b. What did Job say that he wanted God to remember?
 - c. What did Job accuse God of having done to him?
 - d. What regret did Job express at the end of his prayer, and what did he wish that God would do?
- 9. Job gives expression to a great deal of truth in these two chapters. How could he have used the truth which he knew to a greater advantage during his time of affliction?

Lesson 9 -- Job 11, 12

The First Speech of Zophar Job's First Response to Zophar (concluded in Job 13, 14)

Job 11

- 1. What did Zophar think about the things Job had said?
- 2. What did Zophar say about God?
- 3. What did Zophar think that Job ought to do?
- 4. What results did Zophar predict if Job would follow his advice?

- 5. Give the details of the first part of Job's response to Zophar as found in verses 1 through 6.
- 6. What did Job say about "the beasts . . . the fowls . . . the earth . . . and the fishes"?
- 7. From verse 13 to the end of chapter 12 Job was obviously talking about the Lord. What does the whole passage teach regarding Job's understanding about God's relationship to nature, to men, and to circumstances on the earth?
- 8. What attributes (characteristics) of God are mentioned, or are implied, in verses 13 through 25?
- 9. Compare Zophar's ideas about God with Job's ideas about God.
- 10. In what ways do you agree with what Zophar said in chapter 11? With Job in chapter 12?
- 11. Do you disagree with either or both of them in any way? If so, how?

Lesson 10 -- Job 13, 14

Job's First Response to Zophar (concluded)

- 1. How are Job's words at the beginning of chapter 13 similar to what he said at the beginning of chapter 12?
- 2. Quite evidently being weary of the advice of his friends, what did Job say that he wanted to do? See Job 13:3.
- 3. How did Job rebuke Zophar? What two things did Job ask him to do? See Job 13:4-17.
- 4. What two contrasting traits are prominent in Job at this point in his trials according to what he said in Job 13:15?
- 5. From Job 13:20 to the end of Job 14, Job was showing Zophar how he would defend himself before God. What two things did Job ask the Lord not to do as he began his defense? See Job 13:20, 21.
- 6. What charges did Job bring against God in the last six verses of chapter 13?
- 7. How, at the beginning of Job 14, did Job picture man as helpless before God?
- 8. How did Job contrast man with a tree? See Job 14:7-12.
- 9. What request did Job make of God in Job 14:13-17? Why did he make it?
- 10. In Job 14:18-22 how did Job express his resentment concerning the ways of God with man?
- 11. Comment on what Job's words in chapters 12 through 14 revealed about:
 - a. His attitude concerning himself.
 - b. His attitude toward God.
 - c. His attitude toward his friends.
 - d. His attitude concerning life on earth.
- 12. In what ways do you think Job was right? In what ways, wrong?

Lesson 11 -- Job 15

The Second Speech of Eliphaz

- 1. In verses 1-6 how did Eliphaz seek to show that Job was not as wise as he thought he was?
- 2. What effect had Job's words had on Eliphaz according to what Eliphaz said in verses 7-13? Why did Eliphaz feel that he, Bildad, and Zophar were wiser than Job?
- 3. What did Eliphaz' words in verses 14-16 contribute to his argument?
- 4. The section from verse 17 to verse 35 has two parts: verses 17-26, and verses 27-35. In the former Eliphaz was describing how the wicked live; in the latter he told what the wicked can expect.
 - a. From what two sources did Eliphaz claim that he had received the things that he was about to say? See verses 17-19.
 - b. Describe the life of the wicked, according to Eliphaz, from verses 20-24.
 - c. What explanation did Eliphaz give for the kind of a life the wicked have? See verses 25, 26.
 - d. What did Eliphaz think that the wicked could expect for the rest of his life? See verses 27-35.
- 5. List all of the comments that Eliphaz made about God throughout his second speech.
- 6. Do you think that Eliphaz was justified in his criticisms of Job? Why?
- 7. How do you agree, and how do you disagree, with Eliphaz' comments about the wicked?

Lesson 12 -- Job 16, 17

Job's Second Response to Eliphaz

- 1. As chapter 16 begins, does it seem that Job's attitude toward his friends had changed? See also Job 17:10. What did Job say that he would have done for his friends, which had not been done for him, if their circumstances had been reversed. See Job 16:3, 4.
- 2. What predicament did Job express in Job 16:6?
- 3. In Job 16:7, Job began to speak again about God. In verse 10 he apparently was referring to ungodly men (see also verse 11) who had envied Job in his prosperity, but who then were glad to see him suffer. What did Job say (down to verse 14) that both God and the ungodly had done to him, and what connection did he see between them; that is, between God and the ungodly?
- 4. As chapter 16 closes (verses 15-22), how did Job say that he had expressed his grief? What did he expect would be the outcome of his suffering?
- 5. Job 17 is a chapter which reflects Job's total despair. What was the reason, or reasons, for his despair?
- 6. Show where Job did the following in chapter 17:
 - a. Asked God to vindicate him in some way. (It is in the first 4 verses.)
 - b. Rebuked his friends again.
 - c. Accused his friends of promising him hope when he knew, or thought he knew, that death and the grave were all that he had to look forward to.
- 7. How would you describe Job's attitude in general as expressed in these two chapters?
- 8. Can you see any evidence of Job's faith in these chapters?

Lesson 13 -- Job 18, 19

The Second Speech of Bildad Job's Second Response to Bildad

- 1. What two things irritated Bildad, according to the first two verses of his speech (verses 2, 3)?
- 2. The point of Bildad's question in verse 4 seems to be that Bildad was accusing Job of thinking that by his anger he could overthrow what Bildad considered to be an unchangeable law of life -- a law which he described in the remainder of chapter 18. What was that law? Give two or three examples of the way Bildad illustrated the law throughout his speech.
- 3. How did Job rebuke Bildad at the beginning of his response to Bildad in chapter 19?
- 4. What encouragement did Job think that Bildad should have had because of what had happened to him (Job)? See verses 5 through 7 of Job 19.
- 5. What was Job describing in verses 8 through 20? How had all of this affected Job personally? How had it affected other people in their attitude toward Job? How had it affected Job's health?
- 6. What appeal did Job make to his friends beginning with verse 21?
- 7. How did Job declare his faith in the latter part of chapter 19?
- 8. What warning did Job give at the end of chapter 19?
- 9. How would you evaluate Bildad's second speech? What do you think of Job's response?

Lesson 14 -- Job 20, 21

The Second Speech of Zophar Job's Second Response to Zophar

- 1. Job 20:29 gives the theme of Zophar's second speech. State it in your own words. Why did he speak, according to verses 2 and 3?
- 2. In addition to charging the wicked with wickedness in a general way, what specific sins of the wicked did Zophar mention in verses 5, 6, and 19?
- 3. How many times did Zophar mention God? What he say about Him in each instance?
- 4. In the following verses, what did Zophar say that the wicked could expect?
 - a. Verses 5-9?
 - b. Verse 10?
 - c. Verse 11?
 - d. Verses 12-23?
 - e. Verses 24-28?
- 5. In Job's response (chapter 21), how did he say that Zophar could comfort him? What did he accuse Zophar of doing to him? See verses 2-6, especially verses 2, 3.
- 6. How did Job contradict Zophar in verses 7-13?
- 7. What boldness and arrogance do the wicked manifest toward God, according to Job's words in verses 14, 15, and why?
- 8. Verse 16 probably should be preceded by, "Ye say," (understood), and verses 17-20 were most likely questions which Job was asking Zophar. (Read these verses in the NASB or the NIV.) With this in mind, how was Job contradicting Zophar in verses 17-21?
- 9. How did Job contradict Zophar in verses 22-26? (Note Job's contrast between "one" in verse 23, and "another" in verse 25.)
- 10. How did Job contradict Zophar in verses 27-33? If your Bible does not have other suggested readings in the margin, be sure to read verses 30, 32, and 33 in the NASB or the NIV.
- 11. How were both Zophar and Job extreme in their description of the wicked? Which of the two men was closer to the truth? What would you have said?
- 12. Do you see anything in these two chapters which has not been brought out before?

Lesson 15 -- Job 22

The Third and Last Speech of Eliphaz

Be sure to read this chapter in the NIV or the NASB, as well as in the KJV.

- 1. What possible explanation did Eliphaz give for Job's sufferings in verses 2 and 3? In verse 4? ("Fear" in verse 4 refers to Job's fear of, or reverence for, the Lord.) What is the correct answer to the questions in those three verses (2, 3, and 4)?
- 2. What third explanation did Eliphaz give for Job's sufferings in verses 5 through 11? How did he illustrate this explanation?
- 3. Which of the possible explanations did Eliphaz believe was the right one? What reasons can you give for your answer?
- 4. What charge did Eliphaz bring against Job in verses 12 through 14?
- 5. How did Eliphaz accuse Job of ignoring history both as far as the wicked were concerned (vv. 15-18), and as far as the righteous were concerned (vv. 19, 20)?
- 6. What did Eliphaz tell Job to do in the last ten verses of the chapter?
- 7. What did Eliphaz say would be the results if Job would follow his advice?
- 8. How did Eliphaz describe what it means to delight in the Lord (v. 26) according to the advice he gave to Job in the last ten verses of the chapter? Are Eliphaz' words supported or denied by Psalm 37:4 and Isaiah 58 (see v. 14)?
- 9. Give your own impressions of this final speech by Eliphaz from your understanding of the ways of God. Can you see any ways in which Job might have been helped by what Eliphaz said?

Lesson 16 -- Job 23, 24

Job's Last Response to Eliphaz

In this speech Job gave expression to several things that were bothering him--things which had to do with God as well as with the wicked. You will find it helpful to read these chapters in the NASB and/or the NIV in addition to the KJV.

- 1. In verses 1-7, what did Job say that he wanted to do? What did he feel would be the result if he could do it?
- 2. Why could he not do what he wanted to do? See Job 23:8, 9.
- 3. Job expressed his confidence regarding two things in Job 23:10-12--one had to do with God; the other, with himself. What were they?
- 4. What troubled Job regarding God according to the last five verses of chapter 23?
- 5. In Job 24:1 Job was lamenting the fact that it seemed that God had not set times for judgment. See the translation in the NASB or the NIV. Whom did he think God should judge? What did it appear that God was doing instead of judging? This question includes the first 12 verses of Job 24.
- 6. What did Job say about the wicked in Job 24:13-17 that shows a common attitude toward light and darkness? How do Job's words in this section illustrate the truth our Lord expressed in John 3:19-21?
- 7. What final way did Job mention in verses 18-25 in which it seemed that the wicked were getting away with their wickedness? Can you see what this had to do with the charge that his friends had brought against him? Explain.

^{8.} The gist of Job's speech is that there are times when it seems that God forsakes His people so that they cannot find Him, and at the same time He lets the wicked "get away with murder." Do you believe that this is true? If so, how do you account for it? If you do not think that Job was right, what would you have said?

Lesson 17 -- Job 25-27

The Third and Last Speech of Bildad Job's Last Response to Bildad (First Part)

Job 25

1. What did Bildad say about God? About man? How did he relate the two, God and man, to each other?

<u>Job 26</u>

- 2. To whom was Job referring when he questioned Bildad about "him that is without power" and "him that hath no wisdom"? Were Job's questions sincere, or sarcastic? Explain.
- 3. Bildad's comments in chapter 25 indicated that he did not believe that Job understood the majesty of God. How did Job show in Job 26:5-14 that he did understand God's majesty?

- 4. When Job said, "As God liveth" (verse 2), he was taking an oath. What was the oath? See verses 2-6.
- 5. From verse 7 to the end of this chapter Job was speaking of "the hope of the hypocrite," by which he meant a godless, wicked person. In what two ways were Job's circumstances different from those of an evil man? One answer is given in verses 9, 10; the other, in verses 13-23?
- 6. Would you say in the light of what Job said here in this chapter about God's punishment of the wicked that Job was at last agreeing with his friends?

^{7.} What can we learn about God from what both Bildad and Job said in these three chapters?

^{8.} What should be our attitude toward God in response to the truths you have mentioned in answering Question 7?

Lesson 18 -- Job 28, 29

Job's Last Response to Bildad Concluded (Job 28)

Job's Final Declaration of His Innocence

(First Part -- Job 29)

Job 28 Verses 12 and 20 give us the theme of this chapter.

- 1. In the first 22 verses of this chapter, how did Job say that wisdom could not be found? There is more than one answer to this question.
- 2. In verses 23-27 Job told Bildad where wisdom could be found. What did he say?
- 3. How did Job define wisdom and understanding? Can you think of any other Old Testament man who would have agreed with Job? Who? Prove your answer.

Job 29

It seems that chapters 29-31 are not a part of Job's final response to Bildad, and need to be considered as a separate speech. However, these chapters are related to the dispute Job was having with his friends since it is Job's last statement in which he declared that he was innocent of any wrongdoing which could have been the cause of his troubles.

- 4. What was Job doing in this twenty-ninth chapter?
- 5. What did he have to say
 - a. About God?
 - b. About the way various groups of people treated him?
 - c. About what he had done for needy people?
 - d. About how he thought his life would end?
 - e. About how people felt about the advice (counsel) he would give them?

^{6.} What should Job have learned regarding his own wisdom as he reviewed the thoughts he used to have about how his life would end, as he expressed them in Job 29: 18-20, when these words are compared with what he said about the true source of wisdom in the latter part of chapter 28?

Lesson 19 -- Job 30, 31

Job's Final Declaration of His Innocence (concluded)

- Job 30 After reminiscing about the past in chapter 29, Job turned his attention to the present in this chapter.
- 1. In what three verses did Job use the words "but now," or "and now"?
- 2. The three verses which you have mentioned in your answer to Question 1 introduce the three divisions of this chapter (with verses 24-31 being the conclusion). How did Job point out in the first three sections that things were different with him then from what they had been previously?
- 3. What two questions did Job ask in verses 24 and 25? (The two questions in verse 25 actually mean the same.) State the questions in your own words. (See the NASB for the translation of verse 24.)
- 4. What was Job's complaint in verses 26-31?
- Job 31 This chapter concludes Job's defense of his innocence. His use of the word "if" is the key to the chapter.
- 5. How many times and in what verses did Job say, "If . . . "?
- 6. How was Job using the statements which you have mentioned in your answer to Question 5?
- 7. To what things in particular did Job refer in the verses mentioned above to show that he did not deserve the troubles he was experiencing?

^{8.} How would you describe Job's attitude as he finished defending his innocence? How did he still need help?

Lesson 20 -- Job 32, 33

Elihu's Speech (1)

Job 32

- 1. Who was Elihu?
- What was his attitude toward Job? Why? What was his attitude toward Job's friends? Why?
- 3. To whom was Elihu speaking in this chapter? See verse 12.
- 4. Why did Elihu wait as long as he did to speak?
- 5. What was Elihu's idea about older men?
- 6. Why did Elihu feel that he should speak?
- 7. How did he express his eagerness to speak?
- 8. What did he say that he would not do?

- 9. To whom was Elihu speaking in this chapter?
- 10. How did Elihu indicate (1) his sincerity; (2) his humility?
- 11. Why did Elihu feel that Job had been wrong?
- 12. In verse 13 Elihu said that God "giveth not account of any of his matters."

 But then in the following verses he pointed out three ways in which God speaks to man (or did so at that time). What are they?
- 13. What is the reason for God dealing with man as He does? What will be the final result for man?

^{14.} What are your impressions thus far (1) of Elihu, and (2) concerning what he has said?

Lesson 21 -- Job 34, 35

Elihu's Speech (2)

Job 34

- 1. What two things did Elihu accuse Job of saying about God? See verses 5 and 9.
- 2. Did Elihu agree with Job? See verses 10 and 12. Explain.
- 3. What did Elihu believe that God had the right to do, and could do? See verses 13 through 15.
- 4. How, according to Elihu, should our respect for earthly kings help us in our attitude toward God? See verses 17-20.
- 5. Did Elihu believe in the omniscience of God? Prove your answer. See verses 21 and 22.
- 6. Did Elihu believe that God was a respecter of persons in His dealings with people? Prove your answer. See verses 24-28.
- 7. Did Elihu believe in the sovereignty of God? Prove your answer. See verse 29.
- 8. How did Elihu feel that men should speak to God? See verses 31, 32.
- 9. What did Elihu say that Job deserved? Why? See verses 35-37.

- 10. What two comments by Job was Elihu answering in this chapter? See verses 1-3.
- 11. How did Elihu express his belief in the self-sufficiency of God? See verses 5-8.
- 12. Why are there times when God does not answer prayer, according to Elihu? See verses 12 and 13.
- 13. What was Elihu's attitude toward what Job had said? See verse 16.

^{14.} What do you think of Elihu's theology?

Lesson 22 -- Job 36, 37

Elihu's Speech (3)

Job 36

- 1. What was Elihu's main concern in talking to Job, according to verse 3? See also verse 23.
- 2. What attribute of God did Elihu mention in verse 5?
- 3. How did Elihu say that God manifested the attribute which was mentioned in verse 5? He mentioned two ways. See verses 6 through 15.
- 4. What explanation did Elihu give to Job in verses 16 through 25? What advice did he give to Job?
- 5. What other attribute of God did Elihu mention in verse 26? How did God manifest it according to Elihu's words in the concluding verses of the chapter?

- 6. What problem related to God's ways did Elihu speak of in this chapter? See verses 5 and 23.
- 7. How did Elihu illustrate his point in verses 1 through 13 (with reference to the problem mentioned in Question 6)?
- 8. What was the gist of the questions which Elihu asked Job in verses 14 through 18?
- 9. Why do men fear the Lord, according to the things Elihu said in the latter part of this chapter? See verse 24.

^{10.} Do you feel that Elihu said some good things in this chapter which you would feel are according to the truth of the Word of God? Or do you disagree with him? Explain.

Lesson 23 -- Job 38, 39

The Lord's Message (1)

Read these two chapters before answering the questions, and then also read the first five verses of chapter 40.

1. In these two chapters, and in chapters 40 and 41, we see the Lord as a "Wonderful Counsellor." We can learn much from the manner of counselling which the Lord used.

What, basically, was the Lord's method?

- 2. What effect did God's dealings with Job have upon him? See Job 40:3-5. "Vile" means insignificant, of small account, to be lightly esteemed.
- 3. From the effect mentioned above, what does this teach us regarding Job's main problem? What was it?
- 4. From chapters 38 and 39, make a list of the following things about which God spoke to Job:
 - a. Things which God had done which Job had had no part in.

b. Things which Job could not do.

c. Things which Job did not know.

5. How do the Lord's words to Job in these two chapters affect your thoughts and feelings about God? How do they affect your thoughts about yourself and your own personal problems?

Lesson 24 -- Job 40, 41

The Lord's Message (2)

Job 40

- 1. What did the Lord say, in verses 2 and 8, that Job had been doing to Him?
- 2. What did the Lord challenge Job to do in verses 10 through 14? What would it prove if he could do what the Lord said? Was it possible for Job to do those things?
- 3. In verses 15 through 24 the Lord discussed the hippopotamus. What was God's relationship with the hippopotamus? See verses 15 and 19. What kind of an animal he? What point was the Lord making with Job? See verse 24 in the ASV, NASB, or NIV.

- 4. Here the Lord discussed the crocodile. What was the Lord showing by the questions he asked Job in verses 1 through 7? What, then, was the Lord seeking to teach Job? See verses 8 through 11.
- 5. From what the Lord said in verses 12 through 34, what kind of a creature was the crocodile--docile and easily controlled, or strong and invincible? Prove your answer from what the Lord said.
- 6. What point was the Lord making with Job from what He said about the crocodile?

Lesson 25 -- Job 42

The Conclusion

- 1. What two things did Job say in verse 2 that he had learned about the Lord?
- 2. What two things did Job say about himself in verses 3 through 6?
- 3. What was the Lord'sattitude toward what Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar had said? Why?
- 4. What did the Lord tell Eliphaz and his two friends to do? Why were they to do it? What would have been the consequence if they had failed to do what the Lord said?
- 5. What did Job do for his friends? What did the Lord do for Job after that? See verses 10 through 14.
- 6. How long did Job live after his trials were over?

^{7.} Make a list of the most important lessons you have learned from the study of the book of Job.