

# 66 A Scenic Overlook

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 • 6:30 p.m. David H. McKinley

## Job

The book of Job is one of the five poetical books. It is a true literary masterpiece. It is a masterpiece not only in style and construction as far as poetry is concerned, but is one of the greatest masterpieces on human experience contained in the Scriptures. Its topics are not only relevant to our present day, but are abundant with resource for our daily walk. This is a book full of emotion and expression, of tragedy and triumph, confusion and comfort, of suffering and sovereignty, of vengeance and victory. It is a book each of us should love and learn from its gleaming truths! At the beginning, there is some background information that will assist our study and give a frame work upon which we can build.

## Introductions

Job—Central Character—Man of God, Job 1:8

Three Friends—the “Coalition of Comfort”

1. Eliphaz—Voice of Experience
2. Bildad—Voice of Tradition
3. Zophar—Voice of Assumption

Elihu—The one who almost knew

Sovereign One—Voice of God, Job 38-41

## Outline

I would like to give you a basic outline of this book so you can see how it all breaks down and fits together. So many have lost interest or have lost their way through the path of this book because of a lack of understanding about how the book of Job is constructed. We must keep this simple outline in our minds as we go through the book.

- I. Crisis, Job 1–2
- II. Conversations, Job 3–37
- III. Control, Job 38-41
- IV. Confidence, Job 42

Keeping this simple outline in mind will help us not to lose sight of the themes we are searching out and will help us to assimilate the message of the Scriptures and its word to us as a whole. Job is not so much a book of inspirational verses (although it does have some special verses I trust you will take with you and memorize); rather, its message and blessing are all fitted as a whole to bring together a theatrical masterpiece with multiplied segments, each of which reveal truth and add to the whole picture of our experience.

## Truths

1. Suffering affects everyone (believers and unbelievers) physically, psychologically and spiritually.
2. Job testifies through his life the act of absolute submission to the sovereignty of God.
3. Even the devil is accountable to God.
4. Satan’s continued battle is against God and he seeks to accuse all those who believe on Christ before God.
5. There are times for silence in suffering due to our ignorance of some suffering’s cause.
6. The book of Job demonstrates the errant nature of any theological system that supposes that suffering is always the result of one’s personal sin.
7. The awesome majesty of God silences the speculations of man.
8. The purposes of God surpass the perceptions of man, thus praise is the response to our Redeemer.