

Comments About Job 42:7-17

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BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I began a series of brief articles to discuss the book of Job. There will be times when we talk about (1) a group of chapters, (2) one chapter and (3) a portion of a chapter. Today, we will discuss Job 42:7-17. We will conclude this series next week with a short article summarizing our study.

I hope this project encourages you to review the valuable history and lessons found in the book of Job.

God accepted Job's response

Job's response to God's second challenge is found in Job 42:1-6.

A Bible student can ask the question: How do we know if God was pleased with Job's response to the second challenge?

The answer: The rest of chapter 42.

■ God contrasted the words of the three friends with the final words of Job (verse 7).

Job 42:7—"And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, 'My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.' "

■ God instructed the three friends to offer a burnt offering and to have Job pray for them. He mentioned what He thought of Job's response (verses 8-9).

Job 42:8—"You have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

Job 42:9—"The LORD had accepted Job."

They comforted Job

At this moment, let's temporarily skip Job 42:10.

Before we read Job 42:11, let's remember the good behavior initially demonstrated by the three friends.

Job 2:11-13—"For they had made an appointment together to come and mourn with him, and to comfort him. And when they raised their eyes from afar, and did not recognize him, they lifted their voices and wept; and each one tore his robe and sprinkled dust on his head toward heaven. So they sat

down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his grief was very great.”

Now let’s notice the good behavior of Job’s family and friends at the end of the book of Job.

Job 42:11—“Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all those who had been his acquaintances before, came to him and ate food with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversity that the LORD had brought upon him. Each one gave him a piece of silver and each a ring of gold.”

Here are two reminders about how God “brought” the trials upon him.

- It was God’s idea for Job to learn through two trials (Job 1:8 and Job 2:3).
- God allowed Satan to provide the details of the trials (Job 1:11 and Job 2:5), but God maintained restrictions about what Satan could do (Job 1:12 and Job 2:6).

God restored Job’s losses

Now, let’s go back to Job 42:10.

- God restored Job’s losses by giving him twice as much as he had before (verse 10).
- God blessed the later days of Job more than his beginning (Job 42:12-14).
- 14,000 sheep
- 6,000 camels
- 1,000 yoke of oxen
- 1,000 female donkeys
- 7 sons and 3 daughters

His final days

- In all the land, there were no women as beautiful as the daughters of Job (verse 15). He gave them an inheritance.
- Job lived 140 years, and he saw his children and grandchildren for four generations before he died (verses 16-17).