

## THE BOOK OF JOB

### JOB 26

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Job's friends claimed to speak on God's behalf, but they were only uttering their opinions. (2 Kings 22.12,14; Job 13.7,8)
2. Job's friends have not been helpful. (Job 26.1-4)
3. The power of God is to be recognized and respected.

#### I. THE POWER OF GOD

- A. The power of God in the spiritual realm.
  1. **JOB 26.5,6:** "*Sheol is naked before Him*"
  2. Sheol: Realm of the dead, Hades. (Ps. 16.10; Acts 2.27)
  3. God is watchful over Hades. (Ps. 139.8; Heb. 4.13)
- B. The power of God in the upper regions.
  1. **JOB 26.7:** God created outer space.
  2. **JOB 26.8,9:** God governs the clouds.
  3. **JOB 26.10:** God created the earth.
- C. The power of God in the lower regions.
  1. **JOB 26.11:** God's power over the mountains.
  2. **JOB 26.12:** God's power over the sea. (cf. Mark 4.39)
  3. **JOB 26.13:** God's power over sea creatures. (cf. Is. 27.1)
- D. This is a fraction of His power. (Job 26.14; cf. Rom. 1.20)

#### II. THE POWER OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE

- A. God has the power to help the helpless.
  1. **JOB 26.2:** "*How have you helped him...*"
  2. Are you feeling helpless? (Isa. 40.29; Heb. 4.16)
- B. God has the power to guide our steps.
  1. **JOB 26.3:** "*How have you counseled one...*"
  2. Are you looking for answers? (Jer. 10.23; Job 32.7-9)
  3. Only God can provide counsel. (Job 12.13; 15.8)
- C. God has the power to guide us through His word.
  1. **JOB 26.4:** "*whose spirit came from you?*"
  2. There is only one book to guide us. (John 6.68)

**CONCLUSION:** When you need help, turn to God.

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*"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"*  
-Mark 16.15

**August 4, 2024**

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#### MEETING TIMES:

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:00 PM**

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## THE LOVE OF GOD

Love is one of those things that defy definition. The dictionary says that love is "a profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person." The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia defines it as "an earnest and anxious desire for and an active and beneficent interest in the well-being of the one loved." The Bible simply defines it like this: "*God is love*" (1 John 4.8). Whatever love is, it is consistent with the character and nature of God. Any definition of love which does not harmonize with the character of God cannot be accurate.

Because God is love, there is not a single person that has or will ever live whom God does not love. He demonstrated it by sending His Son to die on behalf of sinful man (John 3.16). You and I have been many things. We have been unworthy (1 Cor. 15.9). We have been undone (Isa. 6.5). We have been unclean (Eph. 5.5). We have been unkind (Eph. 4.32). We have been a lot of things, but we have never been unloved. **1 JOHN 4.10:** "*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*"

Is there anything we can do to repay God for His overabundant and sacrificial display of love? No. But we can live a lifetime of love by our faith and obedience. CLP

## FINDING RELIEF FROM GUILT

### PSALM 32:5

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Do you look to your past and feel consumed with guilt and find it difficult living with what you have done? (Ps. 25.11)
2. How can we find relief from the guilt of our past sins?

#### I. HOW DID DAVID FEEL ABOUT HIS PAST?

- A. The feelings of David.
  1. **PSALM 32.1,2:** *“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.”* David felt blessed.
  2. **PSALM 32.10,11:** *“Be glad and rejoice”*
- B. The forgiveness of David.
  1. **PSALM 32.1,2:** *“transgression is forgiven...sin is covered...does not impute iniquity.”*
  2. Rebellion, failure, filth. (cf. 2 Pet. 2.20)

#### II. HOW DID DAVID RECEIVE FORGIVENESS?

- A. The plea for the grace of God.
  1. **PSALM 51.1:** *“Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness”* (cf. Eph. 2.8,9)
  2. **PSALM 51.1,2:** *“blot out...wash me...cleanse me.”*
  3. **PSALM 51.3,4:** *“...this evil in Your sight”*
  4. **PSALM 51.7-14:** *“Purge me...wash me...deliver me.”*
- B. The praise of God because of grace.
  1. **PSALM 51.13-15:** *“my mouth shall show forth praise”*
  2. **PSALM 51.16,17:** *“A broken and a contrite spirit – these, O God, You will not despise”*

#### III. DO YOU FEEL RELIEF OR GRIEF?

- A. The grief of the rich young ruler.
  1. **MARK 10.17:** A man came to Jesus with the right disposition and asked the right question.
  2. **MARK 10.18-21:** Jesus wanted what was best for him.
  3. **MARK 10.22:** *“But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful...”* Sad – “grieved”
- B. Why was this man grieved?
  1. **MARK 10.17:** He thought being good saved him.
  2. **MARK 10.18:** *“No one is good but One, that is, God.”*

**CONCLUSION:** Relief from guilt come by trusting in God’s grace.

## JUST A CUP OF COFFEE

It seems innocent enough. A congregation decides to set up a large coffee pot and styrofoam cups on a table in the foyer. It doesn’t cost that much. The members and visitors will enjoy it being provided. It will keep the members awake during the sermon. It is such a nice benefit for such an insignificant addition. Who could object?

If such an objection would be raised, the dissenter would be labeled by such terms as troublemaker, nitpicker, and the more popular term of the previous generation, an anti. Why would anyone be so petty as to object to the church providing such a favorable and benign service? After all, it’s just a cup of coffee.

It is easy to fall into the trap. It seems like such a good idea no one considers whether or not it ought to be done. No one thinks about searching the scriptures to see if there is any authority for such things (1 Pet. 4.11). No one sees any reason to. After all, it is just a cup of coffee. And it is as innocent as someone installing a drinking fountain or buying a microphone for the pulpit.

It is not about the cup of coffee. It is about respect for the will and authority of God. Was God being nitpicky when He rejected Cain for offering the fruit of the ground instead of the firstborn of the flock (Gen. 4.3-5)? Was God being nitpicky when Nadab and Abihu offered a different kind of incense than what God commanded (Lev. 10.1-3)? With God there is no such thing as too little details. His ways must be respected no matter how insignificant we think they are.

So what is the problem with providing coffee for the congregation? Simply put, there is no authority. God has made it abundantly clear that the money collected by the church can only be used for specific purposes, and those purposes relate to the advancement of the gospel (1 Cor. 9.14), the facilitating of the worship (1 Cor. 16.1,2), and the financial aid of brethren who need it (Acts 11.27-30).

Where does it end? Once such seemingly insignificant additions find their way into the church, it opens a door to more and more unauthorized practices until the worship of the church no longer resembles the church that Jesus built. Christians must always resolve to hold fast to the Head (Col. 2.19) and be committed to biblical authority.

CLP