

## THE BOOK OF JOB

### JOB 31

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. The overall context: “Why does God allow us to suffer?”
2. The immediate context: “I am innocent”

#### I. A LIFE OF PURITY

- A. **JOB 31.1:** “*I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?*” (cf. Job 2.9)
- B. Can you characterize your life as pure?
  1. To lust with your eyes is sin. (1 John 2.16; Matt. 5.28)
  2. Pure lives requires guarding your heart. (Prov. 4.23)

#### II. A LIFE OF INTEGRITY

- A. **JOB 31.5:** “*If I have walked with falsehood, or if my foot has hastened to deceit*” (cf. Job 11.3,4; 31.33,6)
- B. Can you characterize your life as honest?
  1. We are not to lie. (Col. 3.8; Eph. 4.25)
  2. We are not to live a lie. (Titus 1.6; Job 2.9; 1 Pet. 3.1,2)

#### III. A LIFE OF MORALITY

- A. **JOB 31.9-11** “*If my heart has been enticed by a woman, or if I have lurked at my neighbor’s door*” (cf. James 1.14,15)
- B. Can you characterize your life as moral?
  1. How do you decide what is right? (Rom. 3.8; 6.1)
  2. The Bible is the only way. (Job 32.12; Heb. 5.14)

#### IV. A LIFE OF COMPASSION

- A. **JOB 31.13-23:** The disenfranchised. (cf. James 2.8).
- B. Do you live a compassionate life? (Matt. 25.40)

#### V. A LIFE OF FAITH

- A. **JOB 31.24:** “*If I have made gold my hope, Or said to fine gold, ‘You are my confidence’*” (Job 31.26,28)
- B. Can you characterize your life as trusting? (Ps. 11.4,1)

**CONCLUSION:** Job examined his life as we all must do.

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”  
-Mark 16.15

**January 19, 2025**

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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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### NO CONDEMNATION IN CHRIST

Struggling with sin and the spiritual death that follows, Paul exclaimed, “*O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death*” (Rom. 7.24)? The beginning of the next chapter teaches us that deliverance from sin is found in Christ (Rom. 8.1). Later Paul would write to Timothy of the “*salvation which is in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 2.10). But what does it mean to be “*in Christ*”?

That answer can be found at the beginning of Ephesians. In the first verse Paul opens by writing, “*to the saints who are in Ephesus and faithful in Christ Jesus*” (Eph. 1.1). Those who are in Christ are those who are saints and characterized as faithful. A saint is one who has been set apart. His sins, which once separated him from God, have been washed away by the blood of Christ. Therefore he has been sanctified. Paul writes to the Corinthians who were once adulterers, thieves, the like and says that they have been “*washed*” and “*sanctified*” (1 Cor. 6.11). How is one washed? He is washed through baptism. When Paul obeyed the gospel, Ananias told Paul to “*Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*” (Acts 22.16).

Therefore to be in Christ and thus be saved, one needs to be baptized for the remission of their sins. (Acts 2.38).                      CLP

## **"BE FAITHFUL UNTIL DEATH"**

**MATTHEW 25:11,12**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. To be faithful, you first must be a Christian.
  - a) **ACTS 16.30:** *"what must I do to be saved"* (Acts 16.31).
  - b) **ACTS 2.37:** *"what shall we do?"* (Acts 2.38).
  - c) **ACTS 9.6:** *"What do You want me to do?"* (Acts 22.16).
2. But just being a Christian isn't enough. We are to be faithful Christians. (Matt. 25.23; 1 Cor. 4.2; Rev. 2.10)
3. Consider three areas where we need to be faithful.

### **I. FAITHFUL IN WORSHIP**

- A. **HEBREWS 10.24:** *"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works"*
  1. Love: Foster a feeling of affection. (1 Pet. 1.22)
  2. Good works: We are to inspire one another to spend our week engaged in good works. (Eph. 2.10; Titus 2.14)
- B. **HEBREWS 10.25:** *"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some."*
  1. Forsake (enkataleipo): To leave one who is in need.
  2. It is not a matter of attendance, but a matter of being there to encourage and be encouraged.

### **II. FAITHFUL IN WORKS**

- A. Jesus is the One who determines the works we are to do.
  1. Jesus is the Head of the church. (Eph. 1.22,23)
  2. What were the works of Jesus? (John 9.4; Luke 19.10)
- B. We are to engage in the same works as the head of the body.
  1. We are to make disciples. (Matt. 28.19)
  2. Fishers of men or keepers of the tank? (Matt. 4.19)

### **III. FAITHFUL TO THE WORD**

- A. The Bible constantly warns us about false teachers and the danger of being led astray. (2 Pet. 2.2; 3.17; 2 Tim. 2.18)
- B. I am lost if I allow myself to be led by the teachings of men.
  1. Some teach that after death, there is a second chance for salvation. (Heb. 9.27; Luke 16.26; Phil. 2.12; Ezek. 18.20)
  2. Some teach that everyone is saved regardless of what they believe. (Matt. 7.21-23; Acts 2.38; Acts 10.43)

**CONCLUSION:** If you are not faithful, it is not too late.

## **HOW TO FORGIVE YOURSELF**

The story is told of a father who wanted to teach his son about the consequences of his bad decisions. He told his son, "Every time you make a bad decision, I want you to go out back and hammer a nail into the barn door. Then, when you ask God to forgive you, or you ask the person you wronged to forgive you, go and pull that nail out of the barn door."

Over the next six months, the boy hammered a nail into the door when he did wrong. He pulled the nail out when he made it right. After six months had passed, the father and son were talking, and the son was distressed. The father asked him, "Did you put a nail in the door when you made a mistake?" He said, "Yes." The father asked, "Did you pull the nail out of the door when you made it right?" He said, "Yes, but dad, when I pulled the nail out, the hole was still there. That barn door will never be the same."

Your life will never be the same after you make the decision to sin, because sin brings consequences. There are emotional consequences, and there are physical consequences. How do you learn to forgive yourself and live with the consequences of your past mistakes? The apostle Paul made some egregious mistakes and was haunted by the things that he did (Acts 25.9-11). In 1 Timothy 1, Paul set himself as an example of someone who came to know the mercy of God in spite of his past (1 Tim. 1.12-17). What did he do to deal with his guilt?

Paul was thankful for having the opportunity to live his life as a servant of Christ despite what he had done (1 Tim. 1.12,13). To forgive yourself and live with the consequences of your past, think about what you did and be thankful that you have been forgiven.

Paul also thought about others. He told others about Jesus (1 Tim. 1.14,15). He considered himself the worst of sinners (1 Tim. 1.15). His explained that his transformation was because of the mercy of God (1 Tim. 1.16). If you want to learn to forgive yourself, tell others about Jesus and how He transformed you.

If you walk around shamed and self-loathing, people are not going to see the wonderful things Jesus has done for you. Live in a way that shows the world that you have been forgiven. The load has been lifted. Show the world that you are a new person because of what Jesus did for you (cf. 1 Cor. 5.17).

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