

THE END INTENDED BY THE LORD

JOB 40-42

INTRODUCTION:

1. **James 5.11:** *“You have heard of the perseverance of Job...”*
2. After thirty-five chapters of debating, God appears.
3. What was the end that God intended?

I. THE CREATURES THAT CANNOT BE CONTROLLED

- A. God’s challenge to Job.
 1. **Job 40.1,2:** *“He who rebukes God, let him answer”*
 2. **Job 40.3-5:** *“I lay my hand on my mouth”*
- B. The powerful Behemoth.
 1. Behemoth: Plural of behemah. Lit. beast.
 2. **Job 40.15-18:** *“the behemoth which I made”*
 3. **Job 40.19:** *“He is the first in the ways of God”*
- C. The untamable Leviathan.
 1. Leviathan: Literally, to coil or twist. (Isa. 27.1)
 2. **Job 41.1:** *“Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook?”*
 3. **Job 41.18-21:** This is a fire breathing terror.
 4. **Job 41.34:** *“He is king over all the children of pride.”*

II. THE GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF

- A. There was a transformation.
 1. **Job 42.1-5:** Job goes from hearing to seeing.
 2. **Job 42.6:** *“And repent in dust and ashes.”* (v. 7)
 3. Job took his grief too far. (Job 9.22; 13.1,24)
- B. There was a condemnation.
 1. **Job 42.7:** *“My wrath is aroused against you”*
 2. **Job 42.8:** *“My servant Job shall pray for you”*
- C. There was a restoration.
 1. **Job 42.10:** *“And the Lord restored Job’s losses”*
 2. **Job 42.12-15:** Job was more blessed than the beginning.
 3. **Job 42.16,17:** *“Job died old and full of days”*

CONCLUSION: The merciful Lord has an intended end for you.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
2424 McCARRAN ST.
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89030
(702) 642-3141

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WWW.NLVCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. † North Las Vegas, NV † 89030
Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: pruittlc@nlvchurchofchrist.com

Watch us live at www.nlvchurchofchrist.com

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

May 17, 2026

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

Striving for Last Place

The inspired writers frequently used sports as illustrations and metaphors for spiritual truths. Indeed, sports can be a great teacher. They teach one the importance of following the rules (2 Tim. 2.5). They show the essentiality of giving it your all and having a disciplined body (1 Cor. 9.27). They illustrate the value of a focused mind free from distractions (Heb. 12.1).

There is one word of caution that must be offered. Sports also teaches how important it is to be first. While there is some value in running the race *“in such a way that you may obtain”* the crown (1 Cor. 9.24), there is also something in being last.

When the mother of James and John inquired on her sons’ behalf to sit beside Christ when He came into His kingdom, Jesus responded by saying, *“And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all”* (Mark 10.44). When you glance up a few verses, He said, *“But many who are first will be last, and the last first”* (Mark 10.31).

For Christians, being first does not mean being the smartest, the fastest, or the strongest. It means being a servant and willing to put everyone else ahead of himself. Let us remember the words of Paul: *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself”* (Phil. 2.3).

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THE PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST

MATTHEW 22:2

INTRODUCTION:

1. What does God want? (Acts 17:25; Micah 6:8; Matt. 22:37).
2. Matthew 22:1-14 is the parable of the wedding feast.
3. The context: (Matt. 22:1; 21,23,45; cf. Mark 12:12)
4. **Matthew 22:2:** *“The kingdom of heaven is like”*

I. THE STORY

- A. Section #1: Invitation.
 1. **Matthew 22:2:** *“a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son”* Marriage: Literally, “feast.”
 2. **Matthew 22:3-6:** *“call those who were invited”*
- B. Section #2: Indignation.
 1. **Matthew 22:7:** *“But when the king heard about it, he was furious.”* Furious: slow, simmering anger.
 2. **Matthew 22:8-10:** Invitation is offered to the world.
- C. Section #3: Investigation.
 1. **Matthew 22:11,12:** *“he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.”*
 2. **Matthew 22:13,14:** The guest is cast out.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE

- A. Lesson #1: God wants a relationship with you.
 1. God offers an invitation. (Matt. 22:3,4,9)
 2. God has prepared a great feast. (Matt. 22:4)
- B. Lesson #2: There are conditions we must meet.
 1. God was angry with those who spurned His invitation. (Matt. 22:7). Orgizomai. (cf. Rom. 11:22)
 2. God punished those who spurned His invitation. (Matt. 22:8). Worthy: They did not measure up.
- C. Lesson #3: Some things make a relationship impossible.
 1. Indifference. (Matt. 22:5; c.f Rev. 2:16,17)
 2. Materialism. (Matt. 22:5; cf. 1 Tim. 6:10)
 3. Mistreating others. (Matt. 22:6; cf. 1 John 4:20)
 4. Disrespecting His word. (Matt. 22:11; cf. Heb. 10:28,29)

CONCLUSION: God wants a relationship with you. But you must come to Him on His terms.

“Be Anxious for Nothing”

Have you ever noticed that Philippians 4:6 never actually tells you how to stop worrying? It just says, *“be anxious for nothing.”* And if you are anything like me, you have read that and thought, okay, but how? Because if I could just decide not to worry, I would have done that already. The Holy Spirit did not leave us without an answer.

The phrase, *“be anxious for nothing”* is in the form of an imperative. And when the Holy Spirit puts an imperative in Scripture, He is not offering lifestyle suggestions. It is a command.

Now watch what is happening in the Greek. The word translated as *“be anxious”* is *merimnao*. It is formed from two different Greek words. The first is *“merizo”* which means “to divide, to cut apart, to split.” The second is *“nous”* which is the Greek word for the mind. Put them together. *Merimnao* literally means to have a divided mind.

But don't miss what this says. When God commands us to be anxious for nothing, He is not telling us not to have bad feelings. He is describing exactly what worry does to us. Worry puts one part of you here in the present where you are supposed to be, and drags another part of you back into yesterday's failures or forward into tomorrow's fears. And suddenly you are not fully anywhere. You are split.

Worry is the voice that wakes you up at three in the morning wondering what will happen if you lose the job. What if the test reveals a life-threatening disease? What if the money runs out? Worry is the voice that obsesses over the mistakes of yesterday and the consequences of those mistakes tomorrow. Your mind is in the past and in the future. And God says that you are commanded to stop dividing your mind.

Notice that the Holy Spirit does not only tell us what to stop. He tells us what to do instead. He writes, *“in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God”* (Phil. 4:6). Whatever it is that is dividing your mind whether it be your relationships, your health, your finances, God wants you to bring any and all of it to Him in prayer.

When we put our worries into the hands of God, the Holy Spirit promises that *“the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”* (Phil. 4:7). The word “guard” is a military term. It paints a picture of a soldier stationed at the gate and keeping what belongs inside from being taken and keeping what does not belong from getting in. The peace of God stands guard over a mind that puts worry into the hands of God.

You do not have to keep living with a divided mind. Take it to God. And trust Him with the outcome.

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