

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH LORTON

Rising From the Ashes

Job 38:1 – 42:17

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That God rules over Satan without Himself being guilty of sin is a hard truth, but it is also comforting. It tells us that whatever evil we suffer as Christians is not purposeless but will lead to our good and to God's glory.

Knowledge of this truth should not only move us to glorify the Lord but also to be confident that every tragedy we meet and every trial we face is not without divine purpose. If you are going through a difficult time, know that God is using it for your good even if you cannot yet see that now.

How God rules His earth (Job 38:1-40:2).

(Job's first reply, Job 40:3-5).

How God overrules His enemies (Job 40:6-41:34).

(Job's second reply, Job 42:1-6).

How God restores His elect (Job 42:7-17).

Questions to Consider

1. In Job 23:3, Job cries out, "Oh, that I knew where I might find him!" and in 31:35, "Oh, that I had one to hear me!" After 37 chapters of silence, Job finally gets what he longed for. God finally answers Job "out of the whirlwind" in Job 38. Why do you think God responds in this way?
2. Why does God emphasize His work in creation and Job's absence from that process? How does this Creator/created relationship affect our understanding and expectations of God and of life in general?
3. In perhaps His most pointed question to Job, God asks in Job 40:2, "Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it." Job believed that he had committed no sin that caused his suffering, but some of his words suggest that he did find fault with how God governed His creation. Have there been times in your life where you have found fault with God and how He operates?
4. In Job 42:2, Job seems to have gotten God's point when he exclaims, "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted." Considering what God has just revealed, what does Job's statement tell us about God's sovereignty?
5. As the book concludes, we find the Lord rebuking Job's friends and restoring Job's fortunes. Does this ending in any way "spoil" the book for you? Do you think that "fairness" demands that the righteous always prosper and the wicked always suffer? How should the end of the book rightly shape a believer's expectations?
6. Why do you love God? How does your answer fit with what we learn from the book of Job?