

The Book of Job: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Lesson Four

1. So far, we have covered Job chapters 1-3. We remember that Job had been richly blessed by the Lord. Then, completely hidden from Job, Satan appeared before God's judgment seat. Satan accused Job of being a fair weather worshiper of God. Satan accused God of bribing Job to worship Him. God gave Satan permission to take everything Job had except for his life. Then, Job lost everything: his cattle, his children, and his good health. Job's response was one of lament, but Job continued to trust and worship God.
2. We remember, also, that at first Job's friends, Bildad, Zophar, and Eliphaz remained silent. They came to be with Job for seven days and nights but spoke not a word because they saw how great his suffering was. But after Job's sorrowful lament in chapter three, they kept silent no more. See Job 4:7-9; 8:4-6, 20; 11:10-11, 13-15, 20. They basically said, "Well, Job, you must have done something really bad! We know God is good, so if bad things are happening to you, then you've been really bad!"
3. It's no wonder that Job's response to them is this. Read Job 16:1-2.
4. Job's lament continues in Job 14. Read Job 14:1-14. These words are dark and sad. Yet, there is a glimmer of hope in 14:7. A tree can overcome being cut down and left for dead. There is hope for a tree. See 14:8-9. Job had been cut down. He had been cut down first by tragedy and then by his own friends. But there was hope for renewal. See 14:14. In what tree can we find hope regardless of our situation in life?