



God and Human Suffering

Memory Text: Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. Matthew 6:34

God in Nature

SUNDAY: October 16

Key Passage(s): Job 12:7-10

1. In the midst of Job's suffering he responds to accusations of those around him. What were his friends claiming that Job did not have? Job 12:1-3

2. How is Job's sufferings received by his neighbors? Job 12:4

3. What point was Job making about the treatment of those at ease and the robbers? Job 12:5,6

4. When Job asks his accusers to look at the beasts, fowls, earth, and fish what point was he making? Job 12:9

5. (Discussion) As we take a look at the larger picture of life on this earth do animals suffer? Do animals do wrong or are they punished or are they just like us who suffer in this world of sin at the hand of the devil?

NOTES:

Nothing Came From Itself

MONDAY: October 17

Key Passage(s): John 1:1-3, Psalms 33:6-9, Matthew 6:30,33-34

1. Where do creatures of the earth come from? Revelation 3:14; Colossians 1:16, 17

NOTE: The prophetic fulfillment of the Laodiceans began when a shut door was opened in heaven, that being the door to the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary. When did that occur? Tuesday, October 22, 1844. Exactly 172 years ago today. In that same year Darwin wrote one of two essays that would lay the foundation for his book on origins.

2. How did the Heavenly Trio create this earth? John 1:1-3; Psalm 33:6-9

3. What do the wonders of creation like lilies of the field and the grass teach us about our origin? Matthew 6:30, 33, 34

4. (Discussion) How did Job exemplify his trust in his Creator through all that he went through?

Notes:

The Earliest of Books

TUESDAY: October 18

Key Passage(s): Job 1:2, Job 42:16

1. Job does not mention an Egyptian exodus as do those that came after him. What can we surmise about Job's time frame from this?

2. How long did Job live after trials? Job 42:16

3. How many children did Job have before he faced those severe trials? Job 1:2

NOTE: Job's children were the only thing that was not doubled (see chapter 42). Why? In the earth made new he will have double.

4. Looking at the ages of the patriarchs, based on the number of children he originally had plus the number of years he lived after he had his other children, which timeframe would Job have lived?

| <u>Biblical Patriarchs</u> | <u>Age When First Son Was Born</u> | <u>Age at Death</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Shem (Genesis 11:10,11) | 100 | 600 |
| Arphaxad (Genesis 11:12,13) | 35 | 438 |
| Salah (Genesis 11:14,15) | 30 | 433 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Eber (Genesis 11:16,17) | 34 | 464 | Job lived sometime here. (Based on his lifespan) |
| Peleg (Genesis 11:18,19) | 30 | 239 | |
| Reu (Genesis 11:20,21) | 32 | 239 | |
| Serug (Genesis 11:22,23) | 30 | 230 | |
| Nahor (Genesis 11:24,25) | 29 | 148 | |
| Terah (Genesis 11:26,32) | 70 | 205 | |
| Abraham (Genesis 21:5; 25:7) | 100 | 175 | |
| Isaac (Genesis 25:26; 35:28) | 60 | 180 | |
| Jacob (Genesis 47:28) | | 175 | |
| Joseph (Genesis 50:22) | | 110 | |
| Moses | | 120 | |

NOTE: Job probably, based on the lifespan of the patriarchs, lived between Peleg and Isaac.

5. (Discussion) Job was not seemingly a part of the line of Shem. What does this teach us about the “seed of the woman” (Genesis 3:15)?

NOTES:

The Dilemma

WEDNESDAY: October 19

Key Passage(s): Job 6:4-8; Job 9:1-12; Job 10:8-12

1. What does Job mean when he says “the arrows of the Almighty?” Job 6:4; Psalm 38:2

2. Job illustrates his struggles with a donkey, ox, unsavory food, and egg whites. What is Job saying? Job 6:5-8

3. What is Job wrestling with? Job 9:1-12

4. Who is Job questioning in regards to his situation? Job 10:8-12

5. (Discussion) Is it wrong to question God as Job did?

NOTES:

Theodicy

THURSDAY: October 20

Key Passage(s): Romans 3:1-4

1. Why does God need to be justified? Romans 3:3,4

2. Legally speaking, when is a controversy settled and someone justified? Deuteronomy 25:1

3. After the investigative judgment (Daniel 7:9,10) what will be said of God? Revelation 15:3

4. When will we receive the answers to our questions of why things happened in this life? Revelation 20:6, 12; Psalm 145:10

“Every question of truth and error in the long-standing controversy has now been made plain. The results of rebellion, the fruits of setting aside the divine statutes, have been laid open to the view of all created intelligences. The working out of Satan’s rule in contrast with the government of God has been presented to the whole universe. Satan’s own works have condemned him. God’s wisdom, His justice, and His goodness stand fully vindicated. It is seen that all His dealings in the great controversy have been conducted with respect to the eternal good of His people and the good of all the worlds that He has created.” *The Great Controversy*, p. 170, 171

NOTES: