

We Can Always Learn More About God

International Bible Lesson

Job 42:1-17

Sunday, October 26, 2014

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“Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not” (Job 42:3—KJV).

“Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’ Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know” (Job 42:3—NRSV).

After Job passed Satan’s testing, God told Job why he had suffered, but God also wanted Job to admit his limited knowledge of God. Job knew many truths about God, but he did not know all that he needed to know about God until God spoke to Job and his friends. After God restored Job’s fortunes, Job lived another 140 years and could learn even more about God as the years passed. Job admitted that he knew little about the nature and character of God which was really too wonderful for him to understand. Among the new truths he learned, he told God, “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted” (Job 42:2). God can do all things, and if there are some things we want God to do, such as remove our suffering, we need to remember that God has good reasons when He does not do something according to our timing. The Book of Job gives us some of the reasons why God does not always work our way in our behalf or in behalf of those we love. God also taught Job that no one and nothing, not even Satan or his schemes, could prevent Him from achieving His purposes. God defeated Satan’s schemes to destroy the character and public perception of Job, and God has been able to use the story of Job to encourage believers for more than 3500 years. God completely defeated Satan when Satan tested Job, and someday all believers will see Satan completely and finally defeated.

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Thinking Further

1. Read Job 42:2. Do you agree? Explain.
2. Read Psalm 100. What more do you learn about God from this Psalm?
3. Why is the Bible important to you?
4. Job did not sin against God by asking questions of God. List some of the ways that God answers questions today.
5. How did Job express his humility before God?