

No. 34 Lessons on Loyalty From the Book of Job (Symposium)
 -What We Learn From Natural Forces

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video]

JEHOVAH'S LOYAL SERVANT-ATTACKED (2 min.)

Job was a loyal servant of Jehovah and an example to others

He had clear spiritual and moral vision (Job 31:1, 9-28)

Job was well-respected; others looked to him for guidance and relied on him for help (Job 29:8, 12, 13, 16)

However, after coming under brutal attack from Satan, Job temporarily lost the proper perspective on his situation

Job was still a loyal servant of Jehovah, but he became consumed with his own problems and the unfair criticism he received

What did Jehovah do to help his loyal servant Job?

CREATION REVEALS THE CREATOR (6 min.)

There were many ways that Jehovah could have comforted and corrected Job

Jehovah could have revealed to Job the real reason for his suffering, or Jehovah could have given Job a vision of future restoration (Job 1:9-12; 2:3-6)

Instead, Jehovah instructed Job to look more closely at what was right in front of him-physical creation

Why did Jehovah choose to use *creation* to correct Job's thinking?

To regain his spiritual balance, Job needed to "see" Jehovah more clearly

We cannot see Jehovah with our eyes, but his creative works reveal his *qualities* [Read Romans 1:20]

Closely observing what Jehovah has made and meditating on it focuses our thoughts on his "eternal power and Godship"

Our trials appear less overwhelming when we reflect on Jehovah's abundant power to help us

We are reminded of Jehovah's greatness and the primary importance of his name being sanctified

Jehovah used the faithful man Elihu to direct Job's attention to "the wonderful works of God" [Read Job 37:14]

Elihu's words reveal that he was a careful observer of the natural world (Job 37)

What Elihu observed in creation deepened his trust in the Creator [Read Job 37:23]

Next Jehovah himself spoke to Job (Job 38:1-3)

Jehovah asked Job a series of questions about physical creation, including natural forces and animals

In this talk, we will discuss natural forces; the following talk will consider animal creation

What were some of the natural forces that Jehovah invited Job to consider?

How can considering these same forces strengthen *our* loyalty to Jehovah?

Please watch the following video presentation

VIDEO (5 min.)

REMAIN LOYAL TO OUR LOVING CREATOR (5 min.)

What can we learn by considering carefully Jehovah's wonderful works of creation?

The Creator of "the laws governing the heavens" has the power to stabilize his loyal servants even in the most unsettling times (Job 38:33)

The One who designed the water cycle can accomplish things that to us seem impossible (Job 36:26-28)

Jehovah can make us resilient like grass, giving us the power to recover from fiery or crushing trials (Job 38:26, 27)

Job's heart was moved by his close examination of physical creation [Read Job 42:1, 2, 5]

Job's perspective was adjusted, and his spiritual vision was clarified

His relationship with Jehovah was strengthened, and he "saw" his Creator as never before

Like Job, all those who are loyal to Jehovah will be tested

When we feel overwhelmed by trials or tragedies, we may see only our problems

Instead of focusing inward on our pain, we need to stop, look up, and "see" Jehovah through his "wonderful works" (Job 37:14)

Creation provides daily reminders that we are not alone

Even when there seems to be no solution to a problem, we can be confident in Jehovah's ability to care for us—perhaps in a way that we would never have imagined

Jehovah has promised to perform even more wonderful works in the future (w01 4/15 12-13 ¶19-21)

Enthusiastically share with others your confidence in Jehovah, praising him with all your heart! (Ps 9:1; 96:3)

Listen now as Brother _____ presents the final part of our symposium, "Lessons on Loyalty From the Book of Job—What the Animal Creation Teaches Us"

TO BE COVERED IN 18 MINUTES