

The _____
BIG QUESTION
_____ *in Suffering*

THE BOOK OF JOB

THE HISTORY OF JOB IN A NUTSHELL

1. Job fears God and is richly blessed.
2. God allows Satan to take away his blessings to show *why* Job fears God.
3. Job wrestles: “*Why* is all this happening to me?” His friends worsen his struggle, saying, “You must’ve done something to deserve this.”
4. God finally appears to Job saying, “I’m the God who runs the world. You’re not.”
5. Through encountering God, Job comes to fear the Lord more deeply. He repents of his bitter accusations, and submits to God’s rule.

THE BOOK OF JOB AT A GLANCE

Prologue (ch. 1-2)

3 Cycles of Dialogue (ch. 3-27)

1st – Job / Eliphaz / Job / Bildad / Job / Zophar / Job

2nd – Eliphaz / Job / Bildad / Job / Zophar / Job

3rd – Eliphaz / Job / Bildad / Job

 Poem on Wisdom (ch. 28)

3 Monologues (ch. 29-41)

1st – Job

2nd – Elihu

3rd – God

Epilogue (ch. 42)

Reading Job 28

Job 28:1–11

Humans work with amazing ingenuity to mine precious stones from the remotest places on earth.

Job 28:12–22

Humans cannot value, purchase, or sell the most precious treasure in life.

Job 28:23–28

God designed the world so that the most valuable **possession in life can't be found** in creation—it's found only in a relationship with him.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FEAR THE LORD & FORSAKE EVIL?

- You fear the Lord if you tremble before him, revere him, and stand in awe of him—if you are convinced that he exists, that he rules history, and that you will give account to him. You fear the Lord if you've committed your life to him—so that trusting him and obeying him is characteristic. Your relationship with God is at the center of your life.
- Forsaking evil is an inseparable part of fearing the Lord (Proverbs 3:7; 8:13; 16:6). You turn away from evil when you acknowledge your rebellion, grieve over the ways you've offended God, and seek forgiveness through sacrifice.

CONCLUSION

1. I think Solomon wrote Job to harmonize with Proverbs.

Job and Proverbs together teach that knowing God is the greatest good in life, even when what God does makes no sense.

2. Wisdom is the most valuable possession in life.

The worst kind of life is one that doesn't need God or uses God only as a ticket to life's blessings. The best kind of life is one that centers on God, even when he takes everything else away.