



Job: From Ashes to Awe

Complete Study Course

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Module 1: The Storm of Suffering

Job: Introduction

When Life Asks the Hardest Questions Scripture Focus: Job 1:1-5; Job 1:13-22; Job 2:7-10 (NASB)

In this opening lesson, Chris Pope begins a new and deeply human journey through the Book of Job. This is a book that dares to ask the questions we all face when life falls apart: Why? Why me? Why this? Where is God in the suffering?

Chris introduces Job as a man described as blameless and upright, one who feared God and shunned evil. Yet, in a single day, Job lost his children, his wealth, his health, and his standing in the community. What follows is not a tidy explanation of suffering, but a raw, honest exploration of struggle, love, poverty, lack, hope, faith, trust, and the dreams we hold in the darkest nights.

Job is not a book of easy answers. It is a book of real questions, real emotions, and a real God who is never absent, even when He seems silent. This introduction prepares listeners to walk through Job's story not as distant observers, but as fellow travelers seeking to understand the heart of God in the midst of pain.

Job: Lesson 1 – Job's Life

When the Answer Is not the One You Wanted Scripture Focus: Job 1:1-12 (NASB)

In this sobering and foundational lesson, Chris Pope continues the study of Job by examining his life before the storm. Job 1:1-12 introduces us to a man described as blameless, upright, fearing God, and turning away from evil. He was blessed with family, wealth, and favor. However, hidden from Job's eyes was a heavenly conversation that would change everything.

Chris explores the profound truth that there are always answers to our suffering, even when we do not like the outcome or cannot see the full picture. In Job's case, the answer lay in a divine permission granted in the courts of heaven, a test Job knew nothing about. This lesson challenges us to trust that God is still sovereign, still good, and still working, even when His purposes are hidden from our view. Sometimes the hardest part of faith is trusting that there is an answer, even when we never get to see it this side of eternity.

Job: Lesson 2 – Satan Tests Job

Standing Firm When Everything Falls Apart Scripture Focus: Job 1:13-22 (NASB)

In this powerful and heartbreaking lesson, Chris Pope walks through the moment Job's world collapsed. In a single day, wave after wave of disaster struck: his oxen and donkeys stolen, his servants killed, his sheep burned, his camels taken, and worst of all, his ten children tragically lost when a great wind collapsed the house. Job went from being the wealthiest man in the east to having nothing in a matter of hours.

Chris draws a parallel to our own lives: daily trials and temptations are, in essence, our tests. They come without warning, often piling up until we feel buried. But Job's response becomes our model: he tore his clothes in grief, fell to the ground, and worshiped. He did not curse God or blame Him. Instead, he declared: Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall return. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

This lesson challenges us to examine how we respond when our own tests come. Do we shake our fists at heaven, or do we fall to our knees in worship, trusting that God is still good even when life is not?

Job: Lesson 3 – Job Loses His Health

When Suffering Becomes Personal Scripture Focus: Job 2:1-10 (NASB)

In this deeply moving lesson, Chris Pope explores the second wave of Job's suffering, the loss of his health. After losing his wealth and his children, Job is now struck with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. He sits among the ashes, scraping his wounds with a piece of broken pottery. This is suffering that cannot be ignored, comforted away, or explained.

Chris acknowledges a profound truth: when we lose our health, it is devastating. It is real. Physical suffering strips away pretense and forces us to confront our mortality, our limitations, and our deepest questions about God's goodness. Even Job's wife, overcome with grief, urges him to curse God and die. But Job refuses. He receives both good and adversity from the hand of God, and in doing so, does not sin with his lips.

This lesson is for anyone who has experienced the unique agony of physical suffering or who sits beside a loved one in pain. It reminds us that faith is not the absence of questions, but the refusal to let go of God in the midst of them.

Job: Lesson 4 – Job's Lament

Friends Can Help or Harm Scripture Focus: Job 3:1-26 (NASB)

In this deeply emotional lesson, Chris Pope walks through Job's lament in Job chapter 3, a raw, unfiltered outpouring of grief that follows seven days of silent suffering with his friends. After sitting in ashes without a word, Job finally speaks, and what comes out is not praise, but pain. He curses the day of his birth and wishes he had never been born.

Chris reflects on a profound observation: Job must have been something like a pastor because of the way he laments to his friends and in front of them. His honesty is not a rejection of God, but an expression of trust. He feels safe enough to bring his darkest thoughts into the light. Yet his friends, who sat with him so well in silence, will soon show that they do not know how to handle his pain once it is spoken aloud.

This lesson reminds us that friends can either be a sanctuary or a source of deeper wounding. Job's lament teaches us that grief must be voiced, but also that we must be careful how we respond when others share theirs. Sometimes the greatest gift is simply staying present, even when we do not have answers.

Module 2: The Search for Answers

Job: Lesson 5 – Elihu's Anger Burned

Why Do We Go Through What We Go Through? Scripture Focus: Job 32:1-22 (NASB)

In this thought-provoking lesson, Chris Pope introduces a new voice in the conversation: Elihu, the youngest of Job's counselors. Elihu has remained silent out of respect for his elders, but now his anger burns. He is angry at Job for justifying himself rather than God, and angry at the three friends for condemning Job without providing real answers.

Chris explores the deeper questions Elihu raises: Why do we go through what we go through? Why does God allow suffering? Elihu speaks with a boldness that comes from conviction, insisting that suffering is not always punishment. It can be God's way of speaking, warning, and drawing us closer to Himself. Though Elihu's perspective is imperfect, he prepares the way for God's voice to finally be heard.

This lesson challenges us to consider that some suffering may have purpose beyond our understanding. It invites us to stop demanding answers and start listening for God's voice in the midst of the storm.

Job: Lesson 6 – Speak For God

Do We Really Want to Be Healed? Scripture Focus: Job 33:1-33 (NASB)

In this searching and introspective lesson, Chris Pope continues with Elihu's speech, focusing on his invitation to Job to listen with an open heart. Elihu claims to speak on God's behalf, offering a fresh perspective on suffering: that pain and trials can be God's megaphone, waking us up, correcting us, and drawing us back from the pit.

But Chris turns the question inward: Do we actually want to be healed? Sometimes we hold onto our wounds, our offenses, and our narratives of suffering because they become part of our identity. Healing requires honesty, surrender, and a willingness to let God redefine our story. Elihu challenges Job and us to examine whether we are truly ready to hear what God might be saying through our trials.

This lesson is a call to self-examination, to lay down the comfort of our pain, and to open ourselves to the healing that only God can give. But it starts with an honest answer to a hard question: Do I want to be made well?

Job: Lesson 7 – God's Justice

Vindicating the Righteous Judge Scripture Focus: Job 34:1-37 (NASB)

In this sobering and awe-inspiring lesson, Chris Pope continues through Elihu's speeches as he defends God's character against Job's accusations. Job had suggested that God was acting unjustly toward him, but Elihu passionately argues that God cannot do wrong. He always acts with perfect justice and mercy.

Elihu reminds Job that we all sin, and we all reap what we sow. But even in judgment, God is good. He does not pervert justice, He sees all human ways, and He repays each person according to their deeds. Yet even in His justice, God shows mercy. He does not destroy the innocent, and He hears the cry of the afflicted.

Chris challenges listeners to wrestle with the tension between human suffering and divine justice. God is not indifferent to our pain, but He is also not obligated to explain Himself. The call of faith is to trust that the Judge of all the earth will always do what is right.

Job: Lesson 8 – Hard To Hear

When Truth Cuts Deep Scripture Focus: Job 35:1-16; 36:1-21 (NASB)

In this uncomfortable yet necessary lesson, Chris Pope explores Elihu's continued speech to Job. These are words that are sharp, confrontational, and difficult to receive. Elihu challenges Job's self-righteousness and his insistence that his suffering is undeserved. He speaks truth directly, even when it hurts.

Chris acknowledges that sometimes the truth is hard to hear. Elihu's rebuke cuts through Job's defenses, exposing areas of pride, self-justification, and a failure to see God's greater purposes. Yet Elihu's harsh words are not cruel. They are meant to redirect, restore, and draw Job back to a right understanding of God.

This lesson speaks to anyone who has ever resisted correction or struggled to receive hard truth. It reminds us that God's loving rebuke is often wrapped in uncomfortable words, but those words are intended to lead us back to Him. Sometimes the most loving thing we can do is speak the truth and the most humble thing we can do is receive it.

Module 3: The Voice from the Whirlwind

Job: Lesson 9 – God's Dealings With Men

Awe, Wonder, and the Mystery of His Ways Scripture Focus: Job 36:1-33 (NASB)

In this breathtaking lesson, Chris Pope continues through Elihu's final words as he turns Job's attention from human suffering to divine majesty. Elihu shifts the focus from why God allows pain to who God is in His glory. He speaks of God's power, His justice, and His care for the righteous, while also warning of the consequences of sin. Yet even in judgment, God is worthy of our praise.

Elihu reminds Job that God is exalted in power, and no teacher can compare to Him. He draws attention to the wonders of creation: the clouds, the thunder, the lightning, the rain. All of these testify to a God too great to be fully understood, yet intimately involved in the world He made.

Chris reflects on the truth that God's dealings with men are wrapped in mystery and majesty. We cannot command the weather or control the cosmos. How then can we presume to dictate terms to the Creator? Elihu's message is a call to humility, worship, and trust. God has created so much beauty and glory that we should stand in awe of Him. Job teaches us here how God handles all of us: not always with explanations, but always with sovereignty, wisdom, and goodness.

Job: Lesson 10 – God's Weather

The Storm Speaks of His Majesty Scripture Focus: Job 37:1-24 (NASB)

In this awe-inspiring lesson, Chris Pope delves into Elihu's final poetic words as he describes the power and majesty of God displayed in the weather. Thunder roars, lightning flashes, snow covers the ground, and the wind howls. All of it is under the sovereign command of the Almighty. Elihu reminds Job that if we cannot understand or control the weather, how can we presume to understand or question God's ways?

Chris reflects on the reality that even sin cannot diminish God's authority over creation. The storms come and go at His command. The seasons turn according to His design. And yet, in His mercy, God sends rain for the earth and sustains all living things. This

lesson is a call to humility, wonder, and trust. We cannot command the weather, but we can trust the One who does.

Job: Lesson 11 – God Speaks

Do We Listen When He Answers? Scripture Focus: Job 38:1-11 (NASB)

In this long-awaited and pivotal lesson, Chris Pope arrives at the moment when God finally speaks. After chapters of human debate, false accusations, and well-meaning but misguided counsel, the Almighty answers Job out of the whirlwind. And when God speaks, He does not explain. He interrogates.

God's first words to Job are both humbling and breathtaking: Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge? From there, God takes Job on a journey through creation, asking questions no human can answer. Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Who shut up the sea with doors? Have you ever commanded the morning?

Chris challenges listeners with the central question of this lesson: Do we actually listen when God speaks? We often cry out for answers, but when God reveals Himself through Scripture, through creation, through the still small voice, are we attentive? Do we recognize His voice? Job's encounter reminds us that God's presence is the ultimate answer, even when His purposes remain hidden.

Job: Lesson 12 – God's Mighty Power

The Majesty That Silences All Questions Scripture Focus: Job 38:12-41 (NASB)

In this awe-inspiring lesson, Chris Pope continues through God's speech from the whirlwind, as the Almighty unveils His power over creation in ways that leave Job and us utterly speechless. God's interrogation intensifies as He asks Job if he has ever commanded the morning, explored the depths of the sea, or walked in the storehouses of snow and hail.

Chris walks through each vivid image: the dawn taking hold of the earth, light being withheld from the wicked, the pathways of lightning, and the rain that falls on desolate

lands where no one lives. God's point is unmistakable: if Job cannot govern the weather or control the stars, how can he presume to judge the ways of the One who does?

This lesson is a profound reminder that God's power is not just mighty. It is tender, purposeful, and beyond our comprehension. He sends rain to the wilderness not because it benefits humanity, but because He delights in His creation. His power is not cold force; it is the expression of His infinite wisdom and care. When we encounter God's might, our proper response is not explanation, but worship.

Job: Lesson 13 – God Speaks of Nature

The Precious Gift of God's Creation Scripture Focus: Job 39:1-30 (NASB)

In this tender and wonder-filled lesson, Chris Pope continues through God's speech from the whirlwind as the Almighty turns His attention to the wild and wonderful creatures of His creation. God asks Job if he knows when the mountain goats give birth, if he has watched the deer bring forth their young, or if he has tamed the wild donkey or the ox. Each question reveals the intricate care God pours into the creatures He has made, creatures that live beyond the reach of human control.

Chris reflects on the beauty of God's design: the ostrich that laughs at horse and rider, the warhorse that charges into battle with strength, the hawk that soars by God's wisdom, and the eagle that builds its nest on high. None of these creatures depend on human provision; they rely on their Creator alone.

This lesson is a gentle reminder that God's creation is not just powerful, it is precious. Every creature, from the mountain goat to the eagle, is a gift from His hand. If God cares so deeply for the wild things of the earth, how much more does He care for us? Job is being invited to trust not in his own understanding, but in the goodness of the God who creates, sustains, and delights in all He has made.

Module 4: Surrender and Restoration

Job: Lesson 14 – Job, What Can I Say?

The Silence of Humility Before the Almighty Scripture Focus: Job 40:1-24 (NASB)

In this humbling and transformative lesson, Chris Pope arrives at the moment Job finally responds to God's overwhelming interrogation from the whirlwind. After chapters of demanding answers and defending his own righteousness, Job is confronted with the reality of who God is and who he is in comparison. And Job's response is not more questions, it is silence.

God asks Job directly: Will the faultfinder contend with the Almighty? Let him who argues with God answer it. Job's reply is short, honest, and profound: Behold, I am insignificant; what can I reply to You? I lay my hand on my mouth.

Chris reflects on the weight of this moment. Job had spoken boldly, even recklessly, in his pain. But now, standing before the living God, words fail him. Yet God does not leave him in silence. Instead, He continues to reveal His power, this time turning Job's attention to two of His most formidable creatures: Behemoth, a creature of immense strength, and soon, Leviathan. If Job cannot tame these beasts, how can he question the One who made them?

This lesson invites us to consider our own posture before God. When we have argued, questioned, and demanded answers, are we willing to lay our hand on our mouth and trust the One who sees all and knows all?

Job: Lesson 15 – God's Power Shown

When God Alters Everything Scripture Focus: Job 41:1-34 (NASB)

In this awe-inspiring and climactic lesson, Chris Pope arrives at God's final and most startling revelation to Job: the creature Leviathan. For an entire chapter, God describes this powerful sea creature in vivid, fearsome detail: its impenetrable scales, its terrifying teeth, its ability to stir the deep like a boiling pot. No human can tame Leviathan, no weapon can pierce it, and no one dares to rouse it.

God's point is unmistakable: if Job cannot subdue a mere creature, how can he contend with the Creator who made it? Leviathan is not just an animal; it is a living testament to God's unmatched power, wisdom, and sovereignty. Through this chapter, God shows Job and us that He alone holds authority over everything that inspires fear, chaos, and dread.

Chris reflects on the truth that God's power is not abstract; it changes things. It creates, commands, and subdues. And the same God who rules over Leviathan is the God who hears our cries, sees our suffering, and works all things for His purposes. This lesson invites us to move from questioning God to trusting the One whose power is beyond our control but whose heart is always good.

Job: Lesson 16 – Job's Confession

From Ashes to Awe Scripture Focus: Job 42:1-17 (NASB)

In this final and deeply moving lesson of the Job series, Chris Pope arrives at the moment of Job's restoration. After God's overwhelming revelation from the whirlwind, Job no longer demands answers. He no longer defends his own righteousness. Instead, he responds with humble confession: I have declared that which I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

Job's confession is not an admission of hidden sin, but a surrender of his need to understand. He had spoken of God based on hearsay, but now his eyes have seen the Almighty. In the ashes of his loss, in the silence of his humility, Job meets God face to face. And in that encounter, he finds everything he had been searching for.

Chris reflects on the profound truth that Job's restoration did not come through explanation, but through revelation. God did not tell Job why he suffered; He revealed who He is. And that was enough. The final verses show God vindicating Job, restoring his fortunes, and blessing him with even more than he had before. But the greatest blessing was not the return of his wealth or family, it was the deeper knowledge of the God who never left him.

This lesson concludes the journey of Job with a powerful reminder: when we stop demanding answers and start trusting the One who holds all things, we find that He is more than enough.

Job: From Ashes to Awe – Course Test

1. In the Introduction, Job is described as "blameless and upright." What was his initial response when he lost his children and wealth in a single day?

- A) He cursed the day he was born.
- B) He blamed God for his misfortune.
- C) He tore his clothes and fell to the ground in worship.
- D) He demanded an immediate explanation from heaven.

2. According to Lesson 1, where did the "answer" to Job's suffering originate, even though he was unaware of it?

- A) In a secret sin Job had committed.
- B) In a divine permission granted in the courts of heaven.
- C) In the bad advice of his three friends.
- D) In a natural disaster with no spiritual significance.

3. In Lesson 3, when Job loses his health and is covered in sores, what is the significance of his refusal to "curse God and die" as his wife suggested?

- A) It shows he was in denial about his pain.
- B) It demonstrates his belief that we should receive both good and adversity from God.
- C) It proves he expected to be healed immediately.

D) It was an attempt to earn his wealth back through silence.

4. Lesson 4 discusses Job's lament. Why is Job's raw honesty about his pain considered an expression of trust?

A) Because he only complained to his friends and not to God.

B) Because he felt safe enough to bring his darkest thoughts into the light before God.

C) Because he was trying to prove his friends wrong.

D) Because he knew that complaining would force God to speak.

5. In Lesson 5, what makes Elihu's perspective different from the other three friends?

A) He believes suffering is always a sign of God's hatred.

B) He suggests that suffering can be God's way of speaking and drawing us closer.

C) He argues that Job is completely innocent and God is wrong.

D) He remains silent and refuses to offer any opinion.

6. Lesson 6 asks the hard question: "Do we really want to be healed?" According to this lesson, what is a common barrier to healing?

A) Not praying with enough intensity.

B) Holding onto wounds and offenses because they have become part of our identity.

C) God's refusal to heal those who ask "Why?".

D) A lack of theological education.

7. When God finally speaks from the whirlwind in Lesson 11, what is unique about His "answer" to Job?

A) He gives a detailed timeline of when Job's children will be replaced.

B) He apologizes for the test.

C) He interrogates Job with questions about creation rather than explaining the suffering.

D) He tells Job exactly why Satan was allowed to test him.

8. Lessons 12 and 13 focus on God's power over nature (snow, rain, wild goats, eagles). What is the primary lesson Job is meant to learn from this?

- A) That humans should try harder to control the weather.
- B) That if God cares for and sustains wild animals, He can be trusted with Job's life.
- C) That Job's suffering was caused by a change in the climate.
- D) That God is too busy with nature to worry about human pain.

9. In Lesson 14, after hearing God speak, Job says, "I lay my hand on my mouth." What does this gesture represent?

- A) A sign that he is still angry but won't speak.
- B) The silence of humility and the surrender of his demand for answers.
- C) A physical ailment preventing him from talking.
- D) Total despair and a loss of faith.

10. According to the final lesson (Lesson 16), what was the "greatest blessing" of Job's restoration?

- A) Having his wealth doubled.
- B) The birth of new children.
- C) The deeper, personal knowledge of God ("Now my eye sees You").
- D) Vindicating himself in front of his three friends.

Answer Key

1. **C** – He tore his clothes and fell to the ground in worship. (Lesson 2)
2. **B** – In a divine permission granted in the courts of heaven. (Lesson 1)
3. **B** – It demonstrates his belief that we should receive both good and adversity from God. (Lesson 3)
4. **B** – Because he felt safe enough to bring his darkest thoughts into the light before God. (Lesson 4)
5. **B** – He suggests that suffering can be God's way of speaking and drawing us closer. (Lesson 5)
6. **B** – Holding onto wounds and offenses because they have become part of our identity. (Lesson 6)
7. **C** – He interrogates Job with questions about creation rather than explaining the suffering. (Lesson 11)
8. **B** – That if God cares for and sustains wild animals, He can be trusted with Job's life. (Lesson 13)

9. **B** – The silence of humility and the surrender of his demand for answers. (Lesson 14)
10. **C** – The deeper, personal knowledge of God ("Now my eye sees You"). (Lesson 16)

Conclusion: He Is More Than Enough

Thank you for journeying through the Book of Job with us. We hope this study has moved you from the hearing of the ear to a place where your eye sees Him. Remember, restoration rarely comes through a logical explanation of our pain, but through a fresh revelation of who God is. In the midst of your own ashes, may you find the awe that changes everything.

Connect with Chris Pope

If this study has blessed you or if you have questions about the material, we would love to hear from you.

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The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Job 1:21