**Job 1 / Heb 2**

**Main theme: Pay more careful attention to obey the Word, through tests become perfect**

**-Suffer hardship / Be perfect**

Golden verses: Job 1:21-22, Heb 2:10

The book of Job discussed on why upright people suffer hardship. The central verse of the whole book is “when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold”. (Job 23:10) God allowed Satan to attack Job and deprive him of everything so he was tormented physically and mentally for the purpose to refine his in-depth self-righteousness. Finally God bestowed him a good ending (Jas 5:11), and hardship turned to double portion of blessings so he reached perfection and a more godly condition. He became a suffering but enduring example. The book of Hebrew encouraged the persecuted churches to put hope in God by faith without fear and also to declare to the Jewish believers that Christ replaced every offering and sacrifice of the Old Testament. We ought to abandon the shadow of the Old Testament and hold on to the entity of the New Testament that is Christ. The two chapters discussed on suffering and perfection. On one side it concerned Job feared God and shunned evil under the abundance and honor bestowed by God. Thereafter God allowed Satan to destroy everything he had. He still feared God and praised God. On the other side it concerned Jesus was the Word became flesh. Due to suffering He was perfect for the purpose to rescue everyone who would be tested.

**A. Be godly to keep the Word, suffer to become perfect**

Keep the Word (Job 1:1-12) – Be perfect (Heb 2:1-10)

1.【Fear God, shun evil and is blessed by God】1-3 Job was a blameless and upright man. He feared God and shunned evil. He was blessed by God with seven sons and three daughters. He was rich with property and a large number of servants. He was well known among all the people of the East.

※【Pay more attention to the Lord’s Word and avoid violating God】1-2 As God's message spoken by the angels was binding, we had to pay more careful attention lest we might drift away. Every violation like Achan, Korah and his group received their just punishment. It was praiseworthy that Job was able to fear God and keep His Word (Gen 18:19) in his age without violating God! This reminds us to be godly to keep the Word and then we will be blessed and prosper. If we violate against God, we will receive our retribution. We must pay more careful attention to the Lord's Word lest we may deprave in grace.

2.【Lead the children to be purified and offer sacrifice】4-5 Not only did Job keep the Word in trembling, he was always watchful for his children. Every time after their feast, he would order them to consecrate themselves and offer sacrifice for them lest they might sin and were ungrateful to forsake God.

※【How can we escape if we ignore such a salvation】3-4 God's salvation was manifested through Christ. Thereafter the apostles had confirmed it and the gifts of the Holy Spirit had distributed it. How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? Job was alert to keep the Word in grace. He also led his children live a godly life lest they might indulge in grace and were unable to escape from sins. Now we are in the age of grace and we should all the more lead our family to live a godly life and to keep the Word in trembling.

3.【God allows Satan to attack】6-12 Satan considered God's children. On one side he prowled around looking for someone to devour, (1 Pe 5:8) on the other side he accused them before God day and night. (Rev 12:10) God testified for Job: "there is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." But Satan thought Job feared God for something; it was because God blessed him with riches and honor. If God struck everything Job had, he would surely curse God to His face. God allowed Satan to attack Job. He had a better will so he might go through trials to become more perfect.

※【Salvation made perfect through suffering】5-10 Jesus lowered Himself to come to the earth and was made temporarily a little lower than the angels. But due to the suffering of death, He was crowned with glory and honor and everything was put under His feet. He became perfect due to His suffering in order to lead us to glory. God allowed Job to suffer so he might be refined to arrive a perfect and mature stage. If God had not allowed, Satan could not have done anything. God has the absolute sovereignty so that He might boast of Job whom He had chosen before Satan. Suffering is beneficial to us, so we may have a share in Christ's glory after the suffering.

**B. Suffer and overcome, praise in distress and worthy to be a priest**

Suffer (Job 1:13-22) – Overcome (Heb 2:11-18)

1.【A succession of four calamities】13-19 Job encountered four great disasters within a day. Not only were his property, wealth and servants all lost, even his children were lost. Satan harmed Job so that he would curse God. God allowed all this to happen to Job so he might be done with sin after the suffering and arrive at the stage of sanctification. (1 Pe 4:1)

※【Triumph by the cross】11-15 Jesus shared in our humanity. He overcame the devil on the cross to free us so we no longer be the slave to sin and death but to unite with Christ and be sanctified. Satan had completely failed in Jesus. He also failed completely in Job who was chosen. Therefore, God's children should not be afraid in hardship. Only if we trust in the Lord, we will triumph by the cross.

2.【Suffer, overcome and praise God】20-22 Job suffered four successive disasters and ominous news came continuously. But he fell to the ground in worship to God. He did not complain about God; instead he was full of praise. He considered everything rubbish. Naked he came and naked he would depart. Giving and taking came from God. The name of the Lord was to be praised.

※【Suffer, overcome and rescue men】16-18 Jesus offered Himself as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 Jn 4:10) and became a merciful and faithful high priest. He suffered when He was tempted and overcame in order to save those who were tempted. Job fell into great temptation but he overcame by God. This was also to help and comfort all who might to be tempted. Job had suffered all the bitter refinement and became a compassionate priest. All of Job's mere worldly possession was deprived. But Jesus had lost everything for us and suffered the hardship of the cross. He was even forsaken by the Father God. He triumphed completely till the end and became our model.

**Isa 16 / Rev 21:25 Main theme: The gate of grace is opened, implore humbly gain favor; the arrogant will wail**

**-Implore humbly / Be arrogant**

The holy city is refined, do not stop praying and proclaiming the Word and lead men to enter the gate of salvation.

(1)【Implore humbly and be favored】1-5 Acknowledge ourselves as a distressed sinner. By the redemption of the Lamb, we come under the shelter of the Lord. Immediately we will have the presence of the Lord and we may preach His judgment. If we seek continuously and do His will, then all peoples will be favored.

(2)【The arrogant will wail】6-14 The result will be miserable and wailing if we are arrogant and insolent in distress.

(3)【We ought to grab the presence】13-14 While the Lord still tolerates without cutting me down, may He save me so I may be cleansed to be His slave of love, not for a reward but to bring many to righteousness. We are pardoned for more and ought to love Him all the more.

**Central point of the wheels: Implore humbly and be favored, suffer and be perfect**

Dear Lord, may You let me have a suffering spirit to be my weapon, be godly to keep the Word, be refined by You and enter perfection humbly!

**Job 2 / Heb 3**

**Main theme: Believe firmly, keep the Word till the end and rest; disbelieve and be miserable**

**-Keep the Word / Believe firmly**

Golden verses: Job 2:10, Heb 3:6

A discussion on keeping the Word and believing firmly – on one side it concerned Satan attacked Job under the permission of God so that he was afflicted with painful sores all around his body. At first, he was still able to hold on to his integrity in his suffering and did not sin in what he said. On the other side it concerned the suffering saints ought to hold firmly till the end the confidence they had at first and hear and believe in the Lord’s words and not be hardened. They ought not to be like those who disobeyed. Job’s faith is of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire. (1 Pe 1:7)

**A. Encounter calamity for no reason, hold on to integrity and believe firmly till the end**

Encounter calamity (Job 2:1-10) – Believe firmly (Heb 3:1-15)

1.【Still hold on to integrity】1-3 Job encountered destruction for no reason and within a day, four successive disasters came. But he still maintained his integrity. Thus God testified again for him before Satan.

※【Hold on till the end】1-6 As the high priest, Jesus was faithful to the Father God and He was found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house had greater honor than the house itself. Job was struck for no reason and still maintained his integrity. Jesus was attacked by Satan and his servants for no reason, but He completely triumphed. Since we all shared in the heavenly calling to be consecrated, we ought to think of the example of the triumph of Jesus' suffering. Job was also God's building (1 Co 3:9) and he suffered the affliction and trial. If he could hold on to the courage and the hope of which he boasted, he would become God's glorious dwelling.

2.【The wife incites but he does not complain to God】4-10 Satan thought if he would strike the flesh and bones of Job, he would surely curse God to His face. But God had edified Job through the poisoned hand of Satan to accomplish His will. Satan afflicted Job again so he had sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head which were bitter and painful. He could only take a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes. His wife could stand this no more and incited him, 'Curse God and die.' But he still did not complain to God. He did not sin in what he said. Instead he rebuked the folly of his wife: 'Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?'

※【Exhort one another without being hardened】7-15 The Israelites had provoked God to anger and tested God in the desert. For forty years they had seen His deeds and were still hardened in the heart. They did not listen to God's words and He was angered. We ought to encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of us may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness like the wife of Job with an unbelieving heart. Not only did she not exhort Job, she even incited him to curse God. In Job's utmost suffering, he still trusted in God. Due to unbelief, the Israelites died. Job triumphed due to his belief. Today we hear His voice, we should not be hardened in our hearts like the Israelites.

**B. Remember the Lord’s words firmly and rest by grace**

Suffering (Job 2:11-13) – Rest (Heb 3:16-19)

1.【The sympathy of the friends】11-12 Three friends of Job (they came from Edom and Arabia) met together by agreement to go to comfort him. They could hardly recognize him. Then they began to weep aloud and tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads as a sympathy to Job.

※【The exhortation of God’s words】16-17 Those people who had followed Moses out of Egypt had heard of God's words for forty years and yet still provoked God to anger. As a result, they died in the desert and could not enter Canaan. Though the three friends of Job wept aloud, it was the sympathy of man. It only added bitterness to Job. Only the exhortation and comfort of God was Job's personal need. Finally it led Job returned and be favored due to His words. He was able to enter the good land of rest. (Ps 119:92)

2.【The suffering is great】13 Job fell into deep suffering of refinement. The three friends sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was.

※【Cannot rest】18-19 God had swore to those who disobeyed that they would never enter His rest. They could not enter His rest because of their unbelief. (Num 14:11, 23) Job was so bitter that it was inevitable to become weak in faith. Though there was the sympathy and comfort from the friends, his soul did not have rest. Only by coming before the Lord to restore the faith, then we may enjoy the rest. (Mt 11:28-30)

**Isa 17 / Rev 21:26 Main theme: Sow imported seeds and lose glory; value the Lord’s words and obey the Word will gain glory**

**-Lose glory / Gain glory**

There is great honor in the holy city. (Rev 21:26) There is great honor if we exalt God as holy, do good day and night and lead all people to the Lord because God will add glory, honor and peace to everyone who does good. (Ro 2:10)

(1)【Sow imported seeds will grieve】1-11 As Israel did not value God's words and did not look to the Almighty God, instead they allied with Aram to fight against Assyria. They thought they had set out the finest plants and planted imported vines. They trusted in the wooden images and the incense altars. Their result was sorrow and bitterness. They lost their glory. Sowing by men's desire and the sinful nature will reap destruction.

(2)【Trust in God and see His might】12-14 Only by obeying the Lord's words, sowing by the Holy Spirit and trusting in God only, we will see God's might. When God rebuked, one hundred and eighty five thousand men of the Assyrian camp became dead bodies in a night. So the enemy was ashamed. (2 Ki 19:35)

**Central point of the wheels: Believe firmly and keep the Word, set apart for the Lord and be greatly honored**

Dear Lord, may You let me hold on to your Word, believe firmly till the end, be refined by You, enter your rest and exhibit your glory.

**Job 3 / Heb 4**

**Main theme: Not to long to die but ask for the Lord’s grace to help, believe and follow may rest**

**-Not to die / Enter rest**

Golden verses: Job 3:9-11, Heb 4: 10-13

A discussion on not pleading to die and entering rest – on one side it concerned Job started to curse his day of birth when his whole body was afflicted with painful sores. He asked to die more than to live. He groaned and could not have rest. On the other side it concerned the author encouraged the suffering saints to believe and follow the Lord’s Word. He also encouraged them to make every effort to enter the rest in Christ, be favored before the Lord and gain His help.

**A. Do not long to die, believe in the Lord’s words and make every effort to enter His rest**

Long to die (Job 3:1-19) – Believe and follow (Heb 4:1-11)

1.【Curse the day of birth due to suffering】1-5 Job was unable to accept the sudden encounter and attack. He felt bitter and fell into desperation. Thus he started to curse the day of his birth. He prayed the day of his birth might perish. It might turn to darkness and deep shadow claimed it and a cloud would settle over it. The heart of Job was filled with negative and pessimistic shadows.

※【Seem to have fallen short of it】1-3 Let us be careful since the promise of entering His rest still stands lest we may be like Job who had fallen short of it due to the overwhelming affliction. God's Word was preached to the Israelites. But they did not combine it with faith and thus could not enter God's rest. Job's heart fell into desperation of darkness and deep shadow. Similarly, he could not enter the rest. He thought death was the 'rest', so that there would be no more suffering. But he did not understand that God wanted to lead him to the spiritual rest and the rest in life through suffering.

2.【Being dominated without peace】6-19 The words of Job were filled with self desire. He repeatedly claimed his reasonableness 'why' and 'why'. But he could not comprehend the suffering incorporated God's incomparable great love and His good will. God gave life and breath to men so they might seek Him. In Him we live and move and have our being. (Ac 17:24-28) By the will of God, all things and men were created and have their being. (Rev 4:11) The heart of Job was like being imprisoned and could not be released. He was like a slave being enslaved without freedom. He only sought to be asleep and at rest without being troubled.

※【Make every effort to enter that rest】4-11 Today we have heard God's voice, we should not harden our hearts like the disobedient Israelites. Job complained and claimed his reason to God because he disobeyed. He did not understand God's love and was ruled over by his old self without rest. How miserable! Joshua did not lead men to the real rest. Only Christ led us to the real rest. The painful suffering was to force us to enter Christ and rest from our work without struggling by the flesh, and to make every effort to enter and enjoy God's rest. (Mt 11:28-30)

**B. Hold on to the Lord’s Word and do not groan, receive mercy before the Lord**

Groan (Job 3:20-26) – Overcome (Heb 4:12-16)

1.【Long for death more than treasure】20-23 In Job's suffering, he loathed light and life. He searched death more than for hidden treasure. He thought he would be as glad as he could be when he reached the grave.

※【To admire the living Word】12-13 God's Word is light and life. It is living and active and much better than the hidden treasure. (Pro 2:1-4) It brings boundless life and strength to those who are afflicted. Therefore we should not be like Job who sought death negatively. We ought to love the Word of life positively which penetrates and divides the joints and marrow. It examines and shines the thoughts and attitudes of the heart so we will be favored and rejoice incomparably.

2.【Groan without rest】24-26 Job had painful sores all around his body. He was unspeakably painful and his groans poured out like water. He had no peace and no quietness. Sighing came to him instead of food. All his days he lived in terror.

※【Receive mercy before the Lord】14-16 Since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, He becomes our mediator and intercedes for us day and night. He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses. We can approach the throne of grace with confidence and turn our groans to calling, and then we will be shown mercy and help in our time of need. Our groans and sighs will turn to great praises. (Ps 30:11-12)

**Isa 18 / Rev 21:27 Main theme: See and hear the Lord’s words, overcome by the Lord for outside the Lord is wailing**

**-See and hear / Enter the city**

Nothing impure or anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful will ever enter the city. God’s children ought to take the deep warning.

(1)【Ought to see and hear the Lord’s holy words】1-3 Men will strive to struggle and trust in power and greatness. But they will not see or hear the words of the Most High God. Therefore the Holy Spirit sighed and the wings of the Immanuel spread among all the land. The Lord's heart wishes everyone to be saved and come under His shelter. He does not want anyone to perish. By the redemption of the Lamb to shun evil, we may dwell with God.

(2)【God raises disasters to force people to Him】4-7 God raises the enemies and affliction to force men to turn to Him. By the blood and the cleansing of the Word, we may remove the detestable deception and enter the holy city to gain the everlasting blessings.

**Central point of the wheels: Pay attention to believe and follow the Lord’s words, remove all unrighteousness and enjoy the rest**

Dear Lord, may You let me believe and follow your words, to set apart for the Lord, to learn your example, to carry your yoke and enjoy your rest together!

**Job 4 / Heb 5**

**Main theme: Not by knowledge and illusion, be considerate to others and intercede for men**

**-Convict / Redeem (suffering / obey)**

Golden verses: Job 4:5-6, Heb 5:4, 8-9

A discussion on conviction and redemption – on one side it concerned Eliphaz, a friend of Job rebuked him by his subjective views and unilateral experience. He deemed Job’s suffering was due to sin. On the other side it concerned the chosen priests of God were able to understand the ignorant and those led astray. Jesus learned obedience from what He suffered. He became the eternal high priest and even led us to a perfect condition. Job suffered so that he might become an honored priest, full of God’s love to bear and understand men.

**A. Do not judge presumptuously, do not convict, through sufferings to understand people**

Judge presumptuously (Job 4:1-11) – Understand (Heb 5:1-8)

1.【Belong to the flesh and rebuke others presumptuously】1-6 Eliphaz the Temanite was a man of the flesh. He did not have any of the suffering experience of Job. He presumptuously rebuked Job by his knowledge in the mind: 'Think how you have instructed many, strengthened and supported others. But now trouble comes to you, and you are discouraged?'

※【Subject to weakness and is able to understand others】1-4 The descendants of Aaron were selected among men to represent in matters related to God as high priests. They were able to deal gently with those who were ignorant and going astray, since they themselves were subjected to weakness. Aaron had connived the people to worship the gold calf. He had nothing to boast and ought to rationally offer the offering to atone for the sins of himself and the people. Eliphaz had not experience any weakness in sickness, thus he was unable to consider the keenly felt pain of Job. He could only blindly rebuke. Thus this could not help Job and even made him more discouraged. No one takes the honor of the high priest upon himself. he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. After going through much deep pain, Job became an honorable priest full of God's love. He was able to lead the ignorant and those who were led astray to God.

2.【By subjective views convict presumptuously】7-11 By his own knowledge, Eliphaz convicted Job. He thought that the innocent would never perish and the upright would not be destroyed. Those who plowed evil would reap disasters. When God was angered, the wicked would be destroyed. Thus he confirmed that Job's suffering was the righteous retribution of God.

※【Through suffering and enter perfection】5-8 Christ is the Son of God and He is a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek. Even He had to suffer to learn obedience and made perfect. How much more for Job? During the days of Jesus' life on earth, He offered up prayers with loud cries and tears. He was heard because of His reverent submission. He bore the sins of mankind and suffered the pain of being forsaken by God. He drank up the bitter cup for us and rose from the dead. Eliphaz only knew to declare other's guilty. Jesus was innocently declared guilty for us so we might be saved due to Him (Jn 3:16-17) Job suffered innocently in order to force him to come before God to learn his obedience. Then he would be granted and saved.

**B. Not by illusion or experience, eat the scroll and understand the truth**

By illusion (Job 4:12-21) – Eat the scroll (Feb 5:9-14)

1.【By illusion and boast of the experience】12-19 Eliphaz did not have much deep knowledge of God and thought he had a word from Him. He spoke highly of his subjective hallucination and experience. A spirit glided past his face. He was terrified and could not tell what it was. How can we easily believe by the feeling! (1 Jn 4:1-6) Then he said again, 'Can a mortal be more righteous than God? Can a man be more pure than His Maker?' But he could not understand the great meaning of Abraham's accreditation as righteousness due to his belief (Ro 4:1-8) which had opened for mankind a road of not by ourselves but only by being justified through faith!

※【Like an infant who lives on milk】9-12 Since Jesus had triumphed after suffering and made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him. Thus He was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek. Speaking about Melchizedek (the righteous King), it was hard to explain because they were like babies who could only live on milk, not solid food. They could only learn the elementary truths of God's words. Eliphaz was exactly as this. He seemingly claimed to be the master and taught Job with some worldly philosophy and superficial and one-side experience. Though the immortal could not be as righteous and purified as God, the purpose of God's redemption was to let men be justified by faith and be purified. (Gen 15:6; 1 Co 1:30)

2.【The friend’s fallacy is detrimental】20-21 Eliphaz could not provide the right medicine. Instead he led Job to desperation and destruction. The righteous God whom he mentioned would not even trust in his servants or angels, how much more would the worldly men who were like moth. They would be broken to pieces between dawn and dusk unnoticed.

※【Be sanctified by the Word and trained to be sensible】13-14 Anyone who lived on milk like the church of Corinth, belonged to the flesh and could not take solid food. They were not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. The life of Eliphaz was as such. Only by eating solid food continuously and be sanctified by the Word, then our lives may become mature so our senses may be trained to distinguish. By then we will not be troubled by the paradoxical principle and be disheartened and desperate. Eliphaz could not provide the right medicine for Job in his suffering which was harmful and non-beneficial to him. God allowed Job to suffer. It was not to destroy him but due to the deep love of God. He did not willingly bring affliction to Job and He would never cast him off. (Lam 3:31-33)

**Isa 19 / Rev 22 Main theme: Take lesson and remove evil, save men with one heart, avoid disasters and gain blessings**

**-Be worldly / Be sanctified**

(1)【Stir up to fight against one another due to idols】1-4 The Egyptians lost heart and were handed over to the power of a cruel master so that we might take the lesson to remove our evil and let the Lord rule over us with His living water and bear fruit.

(2)【Grab the world and become withered and wailing】5-10 Obey the prophecy and be the servant of the Lord. Blessed be the one who returns to God.

(3)【Worldly wisdom is foolish and can do nothing】11-15 The Lord will reward those who purify themselves, obey the Word and work with Him. He will accomplish His work.

(4)【Willing to repent will be saved and favored】16-18 Those who are rebellious to the end will be destroyed.

(5)【Been struck and return to gain healing】19-22 Be a witness of the Lord, lead men to the living fountain and preach the Lord's Word without adding or subtracting.

(6)【Be in one for the Lord and let others be blessed】23-25 When the time comes, be holy and united to have partnership in the gospel and wait watchfully for His coming.

**Central point of the wheels: Suffer and become perfect, abandon evil and thirst for the Word, be compassionate to save men**

Dear Lord, may You let me eat up the scroll, to be humble to obey the Word, be refined by You, to bear others weakness and intercede for men.

**Job 5 / Heb 6**

**Main theme: Endure with faith, go on to maturity and will gain the promised blessings**

**-Suffer / Be mature (be aggrieved / endure persistently)**

Golden verses: Job 5:8-9, Heb 6:11-12

A discussion on suffering and being mature – on one side it concerned Eliphaz judged Job presumptuously as a fool. He continued to convict him. On the other side we ought to make every effort to enter perfection and a mature condition with diligence till the end. It also encouraged the suffering saints to firmly believe the promise of God was certain. By enduring persistently they would gain great blessings. The presumptuous judgment of his friend added agony to Job. This was to force him to go behind the curtain.

**A. Do not judge presumptuously, do not abandon the Lord, leave the elementary stage and go on to maturity**

Rebuke presumptuously (Job 5:1-16) – Warn (Heb 6:1-12)

1.【Is superficial, childish and judge others presumptuously】1-4 Eliphaz continued to rebuke Job as a fool and a simple man, and he harmed himself due to his resentment. Therefore when Job called, no one answered him and even the angels would not help him. Further Eliphaz cursed Job and even his children were in trouble with no one to save them.

※【Ought to leave the elementary stage and go on to maturity】1-3 God wanted our lives to grow to maturity without being an infant. He wanted us to leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the already laid foundation of faith. Job's suffering was to make him depart from the superficial knowledge of God and enter the abundance and perfection of God. Suffering is beneficial. Job suffered in the body so as to let him be done with sin. (1 Pe 4:1) Eliphaz's life had not departed from the elementary point.. He was foolish and ignorant. He judged wantonly and cursed for no reason which further exhibited his superficiality, childishness and self-deception.

2.【Rebuke presumptuously】5-10 Again Eliphaz said hardship did not come without reason and could not be spared, showing Job suffered because he was the one to blame. Eliphaz only knew God's almighty and deed, but he did not understand why Job had to suffer. He had no insight of God's will on Job.

※【Warn severely】4-8 We ought to warn those who fall away from the Word. They have tasted the heavenly gift but had crucified the Son of God all over again just like the land that drinks in the rain. It does not produce a crop but instead produces thorns and thistles. It's end is in danger of being cursed. Job suffered innocently and the disasters came successively as surely as sparks fly upward which were unacceptable by men. But if the land receives the moisture from the Holy Spirit, it will produce a crop fit for God's use. It will gain the Holy Spirit and restoration promised by God. (Isa 32:19) Eliphaz cruelly rebuked Job on his innocent suffering and thus added to his sorrow.

3.【The good and evil have different endings】11-16 Eliphaz gave empty talk: he spoke about the different result of the kind and evil. God cared for the lowly and needy. He exalted them and saved them with hope. The schemes of the wicked would be destroyed. The wise would be caught in their craftiness and injustice shut its mouth.

※【God is not unjust】9-12 God never forgets the work of the saints and the love they have shown others in His name. Eliphaz presumptuously judged Job's suffering was due to his sin. This was not according to just judgment and he would have the result of the wicked. God has not forgotten the afflicted even if they are lowly. When the time comes, He will let them be exalted and favored because God is just. The wicked will receive their retribution. (Gal 6:7-8) Therefore we ought to be diligent without slacking to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. Through refinement Job could also become an example of patience in the face of suffering. (Jas 5:10-11)

**B. Go behind the curtain, endure persistently and be given great blessings**

Endure persistently (Job 5:17-27) – Be blessed (Heb 6:13-20)

1.【Blessed is the man whom God corrects】17-20 Again Eliphaz wantonly judged Job ought to be correctly by God. He taught him not to despise the discipline of God. He wound but He also bound up and healed. Even in his seventh calamity, no harm would befall him.

※【Endure persistently and be blessed】13-15 The promise which God swore by Himself to Abraham was trustworthy. Due to his patient waiting, he received what was promised. Job's suffering was not of God's punishment. If he could be patient to believe till the end, he would be blessed. (Jas 1:3-4)

2.【Be fruitful and prosperous in this life】21-26 Eliphaz exhorted Job not to fear. If he would accept God's punishment, his tent would be secure and his children would be many. He would come to the grave in full vigor. (Jas 5:10-11)

※【Hold on to the hope of eternity】16-19 God confirmed His oath and promise and it is impossible for God to lie. The afflicted ought to enter His shelter and take hold of the hope offered to us and we will be greatly encouraged. What Eliphaz promised to Job was prosperity of this life. The hope which God promises us is as an anchor for the soul that enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain. It is firm and secure. The earth is meaningless and short-lived. Only the promise of the Lord is practical and everlasting!

**Ps 1 / Rev 10:1 Main theme: Do not walk with the wicked, only the Word of love will have the might and be fruitful**

**-The Word of love / Might**

On one side is the mighty angel exhibiting God’s majestic coming down from heaven. On the other side is a man who loves God’s laws and meditates day and night. He takes root in the Lord and is far from evil. He bears fruit abundantly and glorifies God greatly.

(1)【Do not walk with the wicked but only love the Lord’s words】1-3 We ought to learn from the Lord and the descendants of Jonadab. Though they had gone through all sorts of tests, they held firmly to God's words without swerving. These people will have great power. They bear fruit timely and are led by the Holy Spirit to walk the right path and accomplish God's will. It is because their power is from the heavenly God like Stephen who boldly obeyed God's will and his face shone like an angel.

(2)【The wicked is being blown away and perish】4-6 The wicked only have an outward appearance like the Pharisees. Their mouth is full of Scriptures but their inside is filled with evil. They hear the Lord's words but they do not practice them. Their foundation is set on the sand and it falls when the wind blows and the rain comes. On the day of the judgment, they can hardly escape from the severe punishment. They receive their own destruction.

**Central point of the wheels: Abandon evil and love the Word, make every effort to go on to maturity**

Dear Lord, may You let me make every effort to go on to maturity, to thirst to hear your words, to endure with faith and gain the promised blessings!

**Job 6 / Heb 7**

**Main theme: Do not beseech men to know but trust in the forever living Lord for He can save**

**-Beseech men / Trust in the Lord**

Golden verses: Job 6:10, Heb 7:3-4

A discussion on beseeching men and trusting in the Lord – on one side it concerned Job was impatient and felt troublesome in his infliction. He besought his friends to treat him with mercy but he did not come to God, the source of living water to inquire to be his comfort and strength of life. On the other side it concerned Christ is a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek. He has become the guarantee of a better covenant. We ought to be like Abraham to give thanks and offer to God and be blessed. Job suffered, so as to force him to come before God to be favored. He is able to save completely those who come to God.

**A. Do not be troubled, give thanks and offer, endure and wait**

Be troubled (Job 6:1-13) – Give thanks (Heb 7:1-13)

1.【Complain and is troubled in the heart】1-7 As Job was convicted by his friend for no reason, bitterness added to his bitterness. Thus he was troubled in the heart and he became impatient in his words. On one side he resented the friendship was weak. On the other side he blamed God for being too harsh with him as terrors marshaled against him. A wild donkey or an ox bellowed when they did not have fodder. How much more would Job? The words of his friend were tasteless, like food he refused to touch and was hard to endure.

※【Give thanks and offer and be blessed】1-6 Melchizedek (king of righteousness) was also the king of peace, the priest of God Most High. He had something alike with the Son of God, how honorable! When Abraham returned from the defeat of the kings, this king came to meet him and blessed him. (Gen 14:17-20) Abraham was grateful and gave him a tenth of everything. In Job's suffering, he could not see God and did not understand God's love and thus poured out rash words. On one side was weighing the trouble and on the other side was counting the grace. We ought to think of God's kind and comfortable words. But Job only thought of the words of his friend which added trouble to himself. They were heavier than the sand of the sea when weighed.

2.【Unable to endure and wait】8-13 Job felt much pain in his environment and the people. So he requested that God would crush him and cut him off. He felt he had not denied the words of the Holy One which was his consolation. He also acknowledged he had no strength to be patient to wait. He even sighed that success was driven from him.

※【Met by the forever living Lord】7-13 This man who received a tenth from the people, was not only of a greater person, he was also declared to be living. He was worthy of the tenth offered by Abraham and the descendants of Levi. Abraham was welcomed by this everlasting priest! Job ought to know his weakness and inadequacy and acknowledge wisdom and power came from God. The ever living God would meet him, comfort him and increase him faith and strength so he might endure to wait till the end. The order of the priesthood of Aaron was not perfect, thus another one had to be raised, according to the order of Melchizedek, that was Christ, the ever-living priest. Anyone who suffers ought to look up to Him, and then he may have the strength to endure to wait.

**B. See through men’s affection, the Lord is the guarantee and be saved till the end**

Beseech the friends (Job 6:14-30) – Trust in the Lord (Heb 7:14-28)

1.【Seek the love of men will fail】14-23 In Job's suffering, he did not seek God's love. But because he did not have the love from his friend, he fell into discouragement and desperation. He compared the fickleness of his friend's love as the changing streams which ceased to flow in the dry season. They became darkened by thawing ice and were unpredictable. Thus he was like caravans in the wasteland, distressed and without confidence. Again he explained to his friend he did not need any material help but true sympathy.

※【Put hope in the better guarantee】14-22 Aaron was a servant of the world. According to the basis of a regulation, he was weak and useless and thus set aside. Therefore we ought to look up to a better hope, Jesus who was the guarantee of a better covenant. He is the everlasting priest. Only He can replace our weakness and carry our diseases. (MT 8:17) The ruthlessness of his friend was to make Job die completely to everything and look up wholeheartedly to the heavenly God to be his only mediator.

2.【Dispute that one is righteous】24-30 Under the rebuke and blame of his friend, Job's self in his depth began to be disclosed more and more! He insisted he was just with integrity. He argued with his friend and even asked him where was his wrong. Finally he requested his friend to relent and not to be unjust.

※【Trust the Lord to save till the end】23-28 Worldly priests have the prevention of death and cannot continue in office. As Christ lives forever, holy, blameless, pure and sets apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens, He can meet our need. Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. Job did not take God as just. He insisted he was just. He did not come before God but he requested his friend to relent. Christ only offered for once and He completed salvation and became the everlasting priest. Job ought to reject his justice completely, and then he would be saved by God till the end. (Isa 64:6)

**Ps 2 / Rev 10:2 Main theme: Do not be afraid that men will withstand, read the scroll and ask to gain all people**

**-Gain the inheritance / The scroll**

(1)【Lay open the scroll】The little scroll referred to the book of Revelation. It was opened. Whoever has consecrated and thirst to seek it will understand. (Dan 12:10)

(2)【Understand God words and ask to gain the inheritance】1-9 Understand God's will from the holy book. The Lord will come again to rule. Do not fix your eyes that the peoples plot against God. Know that God is almighty and grasp His promise to plead to gain possession of the nations to their very ends. By God's might lead all the people to Him.

(3)【Ought to be wise and do good】10-12 Do not be complacent, sleeping, or get drunk. We ought to bear a trembling and joyful heart to serve the Lord and shun evil and do good by God, and to accomplish His work, lest we may be punished and cry in gnashing teeth when He comes.

**Central point of the wheels: See through everything, trust in the Lord and obey the Word, be saved and gain the inheritance**

Dear Lord, may You let me understand deeply how wide and long and high and deep is your love, so I may see through everything and be saved to gain the inheritance.

**Job 7 / Heb 8**

**Main theme: Do not be negative, do according to the Lord’s words and have a better ending**

**-Do not be negative / Let the Word be kept in the heart**

Golden verses: Job 7:17-18, Heb 8:5-6

A discussion on do not be negative and letting the Word be kept in the heart – on one side it concerned Job sighed that life had hard service and suffering. He complained to God and expressed his grief. He was negative and weary. On the other side it encouraged the suffering saints to put hope in the heavenly high priest and the guarantee of a better covenant to work positively and carefully according to the pattern of God’s instruction and to keep the Lord’s Word persistently by grace.

**A. Do not lament, plead the guarantee according to the pattern and serve God**

Lament (Job 7:1-10) – Serve the Lord (Heb 8:1-6)

1.【Full of hard service and futility】1-5 In Job's sickness, he sighed that life was full of warfare and futility like the days of a hired man, groaning and being burdened. The days were in the blink of an eye and like a slave longing for the evening shadows and crave for freedom. He could not sleep in the night and was clothed with worms and scabs. His skin was broken and festering with unspeakable pain. This was to let him know his nature was corrupt, capricious, without kindness like sores unable to be healed.

※【Put hope in the heavenly high priest】1-3 The main point is we ought to look up to the high priest Jesus Christ who has triumphed over the devil. He has sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven and served in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle. What He offered were not sacrifices and gifts but His own body in order to redeem us from the yoke of slavery and to wait for His kingdom to be the everlasting priest. (Rev 20:6; 22:3) God wanted Job to understand his righteousness was but a whole body of sores like a maggot and a worm, filthy and impure. After going through a contention between the spirit and the sinful nature, he would wait for God to clothe him with the majestic holy garment and serve God forever.

2.【Sigh that life is short and meaningless】6-10 Job poured his bitterness to God. He sighed his life was but a breath and he would never see happiness again. His days were swifter than a weaver's shuttle, short and meaningless. By the blink of an eye, he would go down to the grave.

※【Work positively according to the pattern】4-6 The earthly service of a priest is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. Therefore the ministry of Jesus is superior. By better promises, He is the mediator of the superior covenant which gives hope to those afflicted. We ought to be warned by God to work carefully and positively according to God's pattern to build the spiritual house to help many suffering Job so they will not sigh in their days.

**B. Engrave the laws in the mind, understand God’s love deeply, abandon the old and be renewed**

Complain (Job 7:11-21) – Take lesson (Heb 8:7-13)

1.【Pour out grief and complain to God】11-15 Job had fallen into the suffering of the body, soul and mind. He could not stop to pour his groans and complain of God's severity on him. He put him under guard like the sea or a monster of the deep. Thus he was terrified and had no peace day and night such that he preferred death rather than his skinny body.

※【Cannot keep the covenant persistently】7-9 Since there had been something wrong with the first covenant, there was the need for a new covenant. When God led the Israelites out of Egypt and set a covenant with them, they were unable to keep it. God promised to make a new covenant. In Job's suffering, he could only complain to God like the Israelites in the desert and nothing to boast. We ought to know that by ourselves, we cannot keep the covenant persistently. Our sinful nature and old self are just as corrupt and nothing good lives in us. Only by faith and looking up to the promise of God and through the new covenant with Christ, we may keep it by grace.

2.【Do not understand God’s love and despise his life】16-21 Job despised his life and even pleaded God to let him alone. He did not understand that God made so much of him and gave him so much attention to examine and test him. This was out of the deepest love of God! However he complained God made him His target. If he had sinned, why did He not pardon him. It would be better for him to lie down in the dust and He could search him no more.

※【Understand God’s great love and keep the Word by grace】10-13 The covenant God made with the Israelites were not of the letter written on the stone tablet but of the Spirit written on their hearts (Ro 7:6; 2 Co 3:6) and kept by grace. It is not taught by men but by the redemption of Christ. They will all know God from the least of them to the greatest. God will forgive their wickedness and be their God. When Job was completely refined after much bitterness, he would also know God's great love and write His Word on his heart. The new covenant had replaced the fading old covenant. The new life of Job would also replace his corrupt old life.

**Ps 3 / Rev 10:3 Main theme: Do not look at anything, plead the Lord by faith and exceed more than the demand**

**-Cry aloud / Give a loud shout**

God’s angel was like the lookout in Isa 21:8, ‘And the lookout shouted, “Day after day, my Lord, I stand on the watchtower; every night I stay at my post.”

(1)【Do not fix your eyes on the environment or listen to men’s words】1-2 God's children are the target of the enemies. We ought not to fix our eyes on the environment, without hearing men's words and be watchful day and night for ourselves and also for the flock.

(2)【Cry aloud to God by faith】3-6 I truly believe when I inquire of God, He will grant me. He will not only deliver me, He will bestow glory on me.

(3)【Deliver me and your people】7-8 God richly blesses all who call on Him. He does not only grant their requests and even far beyond their requests like the prayer of Esther. Great affliction turned to great restoration and all the people were blessed.

**Central point of the wheels: Cry out in trouble, engrave the laws in the mind, and overcome by grace**

Dear Lord, may You not let me sigh negatively, be positive to keep the Word, to work carefully according to your pattern and exhibit your love!

**Job 8 / Heb 9**

**Main theme: Not by one’s strength, consecrate by the blood and enter perfection**

**-By oneself / By the blood (convict / redeem)**

Golden verses: Job 8:6-7, Heb 9:27-28

A discussion on relying on oneself and relying on the blood – on one side it concerned that Bildad (son of strife) the Shuhite by his traditional experience rebuked Job’s suffering was due to the sins of his children. He judged Job was like an ungodly man struggling by himself; that he would prosper like grass but ultimately be uprooted. On the other side it concerned Christ sacrificed once and His blood cleansed all our sins. He brought us into the Most Holy Place to be perfect so we might serve the living God. He would appear a second time to save us till the end. Job suffered momentarily and endured the undue accusation. He would be redeemed by God and be brought to a perfect state and gain everlasting comfort.

**A. Do not convict, through suffering come before the Lord and understand salvation**

Convict (Job 8:1-10) – Redeem (Heb 9:1-12)

1.【Be convicted presumptuously by the friends】1-4 Bildad the Shuhite was a son of strife. He was not at all compassionate to the suffering of Job. He coldly rebuked Job's words were a blustering wind. How could God pervert justice and righteousness! He thought Job's suffering was due to the penalty of his children's sin.

※【Listen to the whisper of the Lord in the Most Holy Place】1-5 The regulations for worship of the first covenant could not let men see God and help them. Only by worshiping in spirit and truth, then we may see God. Bildad himself did not have any experience of suffering. He judged Job by the flesh like a blustering wind and brought heavier casualty to him. He also did not understand Job's suffering was out of God's good intent, so he might enter the Most Holy Place to intercede for all people, (the golden altar of incense) to shine and glorify God (the golden lampstand) and set the living bread (the consecrated bread). God forced him to enter the Most Holy Place before the atonement cover to hear the whisper of the Lord to understand God's love deeply and be fully comforted without being self-righteous.

2.【Be restored to the rightful place】5-10 Bildad insisted on the argument that 'what goes around comes around'. He exhorted Job to plead with the Almighty and to pursue purity and integrity, then God would restore him to his rightful place. His beginning would seem humble, so prosperous would his future be.

※【Be redeemed forever and enter perfection】6-12 The high priest could bring blood into the Most Holy Place, the inner room once a year to atone for himself and for the people. But entering the outer and inner rooms could not make the people who worshiped perfect. Only Christ who entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood could accomplish the eternal redemption. He led us to the stage of perfection. Job suffered not because of his sin but to let him be refined through suffering and be redeemed and enter perfection. His rightful place would be restored.

**B. Not by oneself, be cleansed by the blood, and be sanctified to serve the Lord**

Struggle (Job 8:11-22) – Be redeemed (Heb 9:13-28)

1.【The ungodly will prosper like grass】11-13 Bildad argued that the ungodly prospered like papyrus. There was no marsh and water, so they withered very quickly. Such was the destiny of all who forgot God. Their hope perished. All men are like grass. Only the Lord's Word is everlasting. The life of Bildad did not take root and he gave empty talk. He did not bring Job to the Word of the Lord.

※【Be cleansed and gain the everlasting inheritance】13-15 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer (Num 19) was able to sanctify men, how much more would the blood of Christ through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleansed our consciences from acts that led to death, so that we might serve the living God! Now He has become the mediator of the new covenant to set those who are called to receive the promised eternal inheritance. Job was tested so he might be refined to reach a more godly stage to gain the heavenly eternal inheritance. Bildad did not have God's Word in his heart. He judged wantonly and was exactly as the ungodly.

2.【Struggle vainly by oneself】14-19 Again Bildad argued that what the ungodly trusted in was fragile. What he relied on was a spider's web and would entangle himself. The wicked trusted in himself like the shoots of a well-watered plant entwine around a pile of rocks and spreading over the garden. Due to rootless, it was uprooted and every struggle was in vain.

※【Be cleansed by the Lord’s blood】16-22 The first covenant was set by blood. (Exo 24:6-8) Without the shedding of blood, our sins will not be atoned! The blood of the covenant was made by God with the Israelites. (Exo 24:8) The tabernacle and all kinds of articles had to be cleansed by blood. By the blood of Christ, He had set the new covenant, (Lk 22:20) so our sins might be forgiven with an everlasting effect. Job was tested and he had taken root in God without struggling by himself. He was redeemed by the blood. From then on he could understand God's mind better to offer guilt offering for others and reached a godly stage.

3.【God does not reject and ultimately shout with joy】20-22 The conclusion of Bildad was: God was just. If Job was able to listen to his exhortation, surely God would not reject a blameless man. He would rejoice with laughter. But the wicked would see their punishment.

※【Do away with sin and wait for the Lord to appear】23-28 Every year the high priest brought blood and entered the Most Holy Place. This was the shadow of the good thing, a copy of the true one. Christ offered once and for all to remove all sins and for those who waited upon Him for His second coming so their bodies might be redeemed. (Ro 8:23-25) God did not reject the suffering Job. Finally He would make him prosperous again full of gladness and rejoice. He still had to wait for the second coming of Christ so he would have a share in resurrection. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment! Bildad judged Job presumptuously. If he did not repent and turn right, he could not escape the judgment of God. (Rev 20:11-15)

**Ps 4 / Rev 10:4 Main theme: Be righteous and godly, be humble to listen and God gives peace and joy**

**-Righteousness / Humility**

(1)【Do not turn to delusions, be righteous and godly】1-5 We should not turn to delusions but pursue righteousness and holiness, be godly to fear God and do everything before Him.

(2)【Be humble to listen】Rev 10:4 John heard the voice from heaven and he immediately obeyed. He did not write out the mystery of the seven thunders. In everything do not follow our own desire but the command of the Lord.

(3)【The benefits of godliness and humility】6-8 Such holy and obedient instrument will be delighted by God. God will be close to him. All peoples will be blessed because of him. God will fill his heart with joy. He will understand the hidden things and be abundant and enjoy God's peace.

**Central point of the wheels: By redemption enter perfection, listen and be godly to serve the Lord**

Dear Lord, may You set apart the godly to You, be watchful to prepare, to grab to save the souls and wait for your second appearance!

**Job 9 / Heb 10**

**Main theme: Do not be self-righteous, worry or fear; be brave to obey the will and gain the promise**

**-Be self-righteous / By grace (suffer / endure)**

Golden verses: Job 9:4, Heb 10:9-10

A discussion on being self-righteous and relying on grace – on one side it concerned the reply of Job was full of self-righteousness. He acknowledged God’s wisdom and power was profound. But he lamented that he had nowhere to redress. God seemed not to identify the right from wrong. He was being convicted and no one listened to his defense. On the other side it concerned the grace of the New Testament replaced the laws of the Old Testament. By the blood of Jesus, a new and living way was opened for us; that we might be sanctified by grace and be perfect forever. We ought to exhort one another to endure to obey the will and gain the everlasting salvation promised by God.

**A. Do not be self-righteous, obey the will to sacrifice and be sanctified by the Lord**

By the feeling (Job 9:1-16) – By faith (Heb 10:1-18)

1.【How can men be righteous before God】1-3 Job wrongly thought that the mortal could not be righteous before God and forever be condemned. Even if they disputed with God, they could not win.

※【Cannot be justified by the laws】1-3 The law was only a shadow of the good things. For this reason it could never, by the sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make men be justified, nor could they be made perfect. It was an annual reminder of sins for men but did not take them away. Only Christ is the reality. He is the end of the law. (Ro 10:4) He offered once for all as the atonement offering so we may be justified.

2.【Cannot see God by the feeling】4-12 Job understood God's wisdom and power was profound beyond comparison. Who had resisted Him and came out unscathed? He performed wonders that could not be counted. He was majestic and awesome. He snatched away and no one could stop but endure. What was worse for Job was he could not see God by his feeling.

※【Be redeemed and sanctified by faith】4-13 The blood of bulls and goats was impossible to take away sins. According to God's will Christ came to the earth and sacrificed Himself as the burnt offering and sin offering and He became the eternal sin offering. He sat on the right side of God and waits for the enemy to be His footstool. Job only had an unilateral understanding of God's power. He could not understand God's great love of redemption so he might be sanctified by grace after experiencing the suffering. He could see God not by feeling but by faith. Satan would then be his footstool.

3.【Be self-righteous without believing】13-16 On one side Job acknowledged God's power. He was majestic without comparison. If God did not restrain His anger, His enemy would tremble under His feet. On the other side, Job insisted on his innocence. He suffered for no reason but it was hard for him to defend himself. He could only plead for His mercy to come personally to the court. Yet he did not believe He would give him a hearing.

※【All by faith】14-18 By one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. From then on, there was no need for the sin offering of bulls and goats. The representation of the good things in the first covenant was realized completely on the body of Christ. The law is no longer written on the stone but on the minds and made perfect by believing in grace. Job was entangled in his self-righteousness which was a body of filthy sores. (Isa 64:6)

**B. Endure to obey the will, do not fear and do not turn back**

Do not fret (Job 9:17-35) – Endure (Heb 10:19-39)

1.【Do not identify the right from wrong and fret】17-24 Job had lost faith in God. He was full of misery and fretful. He thought that God had multiplied his wounds for no reason. God would not even let him regain his breath. Even if he was innocent and blameless, he was no different from the wicked. How could God be like this, without any just judgment!

※【By the Lord’s blood opens a new way】19-25 Thank God! Due to the blood of Christ, He has opened a new and living way through the curtain (Mt 27:50-51) so we have the confidence to enter the Most Holy Place. Let us draw near to God with sincerity and faith, and hold unswervingly to the hope we profess. Let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Job was full of misery and fretful. He was alone without help and could not gain the support and help from his friends. God would show him mercy to open for him a way of faith. The God who commends those who do right and punishes those who do wrong will finally come. Job would be blessed forever.

2.【Disclose the grief and plead to hear the defense】25-35 Job had doubled the pain. He poured his complaint and felt dreadful. He sincerely hoped there was one in between them to arbitrate so he would not be frightened and punished. Then he might restore the relationship with God!

※【Endure to obey the will without turning back】26-39 God is righteous! Those who have purposely sinned and trampled the Son of God will be repaid. The saints who are willing to suffer and endured to accomplish the will of God will receive what He has promised. Job suffered innocently. God did not want to condemn him but to test him. If he could endure to obey the will till the end without backing out and losing the confidence, he would be delighted and vindicated by God. Finally he would gain the good ending.

**Ps 5 / Rev 10:5 Main theme: Pray watchfully to remove the evil, make every effort to enter perfection and God’s hands protect**

**-Pray watchfully / Lift up the hand**

(1)【Pray watchfully to remove evil every morning】1-3 We ought to be watchful to pray every morning. May God cleanse all our sins so our thoughts and words may be accepted by the Lord.

(2)【The wicked cannot dwell with God】4-8 God hates those who sin and do evil, lie and are crafty. I will enter perfection by the Lord, be loved by Him and be close to Him to walk the right path.

(3)【The ending of the wicked is miserable】9-10 The wicked rebel against God. Their heart and mouth are full of evil. They do not seek to do good and will be banished by God.

(4)【Walk in righteousness by the Lord and will be blessed with joy】11-12 The righteous who pray watchfully and shun evil to do right by the Lord will be protected by His hand. He will be blessed with shouts of joy. If we pray watchfully, the angels will raise their hands to do wonders and miracles!

**Central point of the wheels: Do not be self-righteous, suffer to endure, pray watchfully and obey the will**

Dear Lord, it is You who opened a new and living way for me, bestow me with endurance to accomplish your will without being self-righteous and shout with joy by You!

**Job 10 / Heb 11**

**Main theme: Do not be vexed, believe firmly and do according to the will to gain better blessings**

**-Trial / Faith**

Golden verses: Job 10:12-13, Heb 11:1-2

A discussion on trial and faith – on one side it concerned Job had lost his faith in God and in men in distress. Thus he was vexed and loathed his life. He debated his rationale with God. On the other side it concerned the saints of generations and prophets denied their lives to obey the will. Due to faith they became the better witness and also gained the commendation. Job in his bitter refinement was weak in faith. He had to go through trials in order to be of greater value. By that time he would gain the better promise with all the saints.

**A. Do not argue, faith being tested will please God**

Doubt (Job 10:1-7) – Faith (Heb 11:1-12)

1.【Debate on rationale with God due to vexation】1-3 Job suffered innocently and felt bitter. He loathed his very life. He poured out his bitterness and argued with God. He did not understand why God oppressed and spurned the work of His hands. Not only did his friends charged against him, God also seemed to charge him too.

※【Gain the good commendation due to faith】1-5 The ancients were commended for their faith. God's faithfulness and promise is being sure of what we hope for and be certain of what we do not see. By faith Abel offered, he was commended as a righteous man. By faith Enoch was taken from this life and he was commended as one who pleased God. Job argued with God and thought himself right. But he did not have faith in God so how could he please Him? We ought to admit God is right and walk with God by faith and be redeemed by the blood. Then we will be like Enoch and Abel and turn bitterness to joy! By faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead, while Job could only speak words of the old self!

2.【Doubt why God searches and probes me】4-7 Again Job explained he was guilty but he was searched out and probed by God and could not escape His hands. He suspected since God examined men, but why was He so eager to punish him? Was God like a mortal? This was because he saw by the eyes, thus he suspected God by his own subjective. "Everything that does not come from faith is sin." (Ro 14:23)

※【Without faith cannot please God】6-12 Without faith it is impossible to please God. By faith Noah obeyed and built an ark, and he condemned the world. By faith Abraham obeyed and received the place as his inheritance, even though he did not know where he was going. Again by faith he gained Isaac by the promise of God in his old age. Job raised a whole lot of questions to God because he did not have faith in Him. God did not mean to condemn him but to lead him to run a path of faith like Abraham pleasing to God. Though he was as good as dead, he had millions of descendants. And due to faith, he looked forward to the city with foundations, the everlasting country.

**B. Do not be negative, deny yourself to obey the will and gain the promise due to faith**

Be negative (Job 10:8-22) – Obey the will (Heb 11:13-40)

1.【The Lord is the potter I am the clay】8-10 Job did not understand God's will of creating him. God molded him like clay in order to make him like a glorious instrument and not to be meaningless all his life and go back to the ashes. (Isa 64:8; Ro 9:23)

※【Obey due to faith and be given the promises】13-19 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They welcomed the better country. By faith Abraham obeyed God's will and offered his only son. Due to his faith, he received Isaac back from death and was given promises with blessings. Job ought to acknowledge God was the potter and he was the clay in God's hands. He ought to let God mold him and offer his 'self' to obey willingly. Then he would be favored by faith.

2.【Why is attacked without reason】11-17 Job acknowledged God gave him life and showed him kindness. God watched over him and protected him. But Job did not understand why God was so cruel to him and made him suffer innocently; He brought new witnesses against him so his friends came like forces against him wave upon wave?

※【Obey the will by faith and through bitter refinement】20-31 Isaac, Jacob and Joseph the forefathers of Israel all obeyed God's will by faith. They left good examples to their descendants. By faith, the parents of Moses also hid Moses for three months and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God. Job's innocent suffering was to refine him so he would be done away with sin and persevere, and be faith he might see Him who is invisible.

3.【How can there be joy if you are negative and desire to die】18-22 Again Job sighed why did he live on earth. It was better that he had died when he was out of the womb. His only hope was to have a moment's joy before he went to the place of no return which was a place of darkness and terror.

※【Gain a better resurrection by faith】32-40 By faith the prophets and saints conquered kingdoms. They administered justice and gained what was promised. They were tortured and refused to be released. The world was not worthy of them. They were all commended for their faith. Job ought to plead and trust in God so he might overcome the shadow of death and endure to the end through faith. He would surely enjoy the promises of the saints and be glad with shouts ever after.

**Ps 6 / Rev 10:6 Main theme: Plead the Almighty God zealously and persistently, and God saves without delay**

**-Implore / Save**

The angel swore by the Almighty and who lives for ever and ever and said there will be no more delay. Thus we ought to hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

(1)【Implore zealously and persistently】1-7 Know that we have provoked God to anger, so implore persistently for the Lord's compassion, healing and deliverance. Mourn and be weary for our own iniquities. May the Lord's unfailing love turn back to save me so I will not be destroyed by the enemies.

(2)【The Lord saves and does not delay anymore】8-10 Do not be discouraged to cry out for the Lord's deliverance will not be delayed. The Lord has heard my cry and the enemies will turn back in sudden disgrace and dismay. The Lord will do the work of turning things around.

**Central point of the wheels: Plead with faith, gain the promise and gain salvation**

Dear Lord, may You let me have joy due to faith, be obedient to your will, be more than conquerors and be saved by You without delay.

**Job 11 / Heb 12**

**Main theme: See through men’s words, value the Lord’s words and go forward by grace**

**-Suffer / Endure (men’s words / God’s words)**

Golden verses: Job 11:7-8, Heb 12:1-2

A discussion on suffering and endurance – on one side it concerned the third friend of Job Zophar who took his own standard to judge. He was harsher and rebuked Job had sinned. He even thought that God had even forgotten some of his sin. He declared that God’s wisdom was hard to probe and he taught Job to repent and shun evil, then sufferings would go by. On the other side it concerned the author encouraged the suffering saints with God’s love. We ought to imitate the Lord to run with perseverance the path of hope and do not make light of the heavenly Father’s discipline to pursue holiness and harmony and serve the Lord in a godly way. Job ought to see through men’s words and value God’s words lest he became discouraged.

**A. Suffer and be holy, fix our eyes on Christ and go forward with endurance**

Suffer (Job 11:1-12) – Go forward (Heb 12:1-17)

1.【Be laughed at by the friend as self-righteous and talkative】1-3 Zophar mocked Job as talkative and rebuked his repeated idle talk and self-righteousness. He actually did not know himself was sinful. How could he be justified before God and not being rebuked?

※【Fix our eyes on Jesus and endure to run the race】1-4 Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run the race with perseverance. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Job was attacked and mocked successively by his friends. His heart was laden with burden, so he was unable to endure and thus grew weary and lost heart. Jesus was silent. He scorned its shame and endured the cross and the opposition from sinful men. Then He sat down at the right hand of God. Christ suffered and persevered till the end. He overcame completely. Job maintained his righteousness and argued with his friends. But he was unable to triumph. Therefore we ought to trust in the Holy Spirit, not only to struggle against sin, and also our old self to the point of shedding our blood. (Mt 5:29-30)

2.【Man’s judgment is too harsh】4-6 By his subjective Zophar cruelly ascertained Job's suffering was not of innocence but because of his sin. God had wisdom and would punish him. God had even forgotten some of his sin.

※【God’s discipline is of love】5-9 Do not make light of the Lord's discipline. Everyone should undergo discipline. The Lord disciplines those He loves. We should therefore submit and live. Job was loved by God. His suffering was not of discipline and not because God wanted him to be accountable for his sin but to refine him, so he might humble to obey and argue no more with God and men. He did not understand God's love was hidden in suffering so he might have hope and a future.

3.【Convict without reason】7-12 Zophar talked highly of God's fathomless wisdom which no one could probe. He rebuked Job was deceitful and ignorant and as stupid as a wild donkey's colt. Zophar claimed that though Job thought himself was righteous, God would certainly see all his iniquity without excuse. As a friend, Zophar did not have any compassion on the afflicted Job. Thus he judged him for no reason and he would also be judged as he had not been merciful. (Jas 2:13)

※【Share in holiness】10-17 The purpose of God's discipline was to be beneficial to men so we may share in His holiness and produce a harvest of peace. Job was tested so he might escape from the corruption of his evil desires and participate in the divine nature without being self-righteous but be justified by God. (2 Pe 1:4) Zophar wantonly rebuked Job and judged him for no reason like Esau was merciless and put stumbling blocks before Job and made him disabled. He was truly an ignorant foolish man and he would be judged. If Job took lesson in his distress and pursued holiness and harmony, he would not be rejected. We ought to strengthen our feeble arms and weak knees and be brave to run the path without bearing the flesh. Do not make light of God's grace and take the warning of Esau forever.

**B. The hope of the wicked is cut off; give thanks and serve the Lord in a godly way**

Without hope (Job 11:13-20) – With hope (Heb 12:18-29)

1.【How to listen to the detrimental exhortation】13-19 Zophar thought himself was the judge and exhorted Job to put away all his sin to confess and turn back. Then his affliction would pass and his days would be peaceful and bright. His talk was empty. It was a wrong text and not beneficial to Job.

※【Do not violate the heavenly warning】18-27 The book of God's servant gave such great hope to men. Zophar's lesson further troubled Job. We do not come to Mount Sinai to be judged in trembling under the law like the attitude of Zophar towards Job. But we have come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God. We ought to see to it with fear in grace (Php 2:12) and do not turn away from Him who warns us from heaven. God will shake the earth and the heavens once more, so that what cannot be shaken may remain. In Job's affliction he was greatly shaken to remove whatever that did not belong to God. Then he would gain abundance, peace and restoration.

2.【Put man to hopelessness】20 Zophar could not see anything and presumptuously judged Job. At the end he warned him if he did not repent, it would be a dead road like the eyes of the wicked would fail and escape would elude them. Zophar's warning put Job in desperation.

※【Promise to gain a kingdom that cannot be shaken】28-29 We are promised by God that since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. Zophar could not see anything and his words made Job more desperate. But the Lord's words lead us to a better hope. There was hope in Job's suffering so he might inherit the kingdom that could not be shaken as promised by God. Therefore the saints ought to be grateful in their affliction and to serve God in a godly manner and be delighted by Him. How could the unjust and wrong judgment of Zophar be pleasing to God? Our God is a consuming fire! If the wicked do not repent, they will receive the severe judgment of God.

**Ps 7 / Rev 10:7 Main theme: Walk righteously, plead and take refuge in God; when the time comes God’s gracious words will be accomplished**

**-Pure / Be fulfilled**

When the time comes, the mystery of God’s salvation will be accomplished. We ought to be like David to pursue righteousness and integrity and to experience the accomplishment of God’s salvation on him during distress.

(1)【Consecrate and obey the Word, and let God deal with the enemy】1-9 May God awake and deal with my enemies because I pursue righteousness. Save those who go against me for no reason. May the Lord search, judge and secure the righteous, and bring to an end the violence of the wicked.

(2)【Exhort the wicked to return lest they encounter God’s wrath】10-17 God is the righteous judge. He will save the upright in heart. When the time comes, the righteous will shout and praise due to the Lord's grace. If the wicked do not turn back, they will suffer God's wrath and severe punishment. They will gnash their teeth and go down to the Abyss.

**Central point of the wheels: The heart is pure, God will accomplish, hold on to endure to run the race**

Dear Lord, may You let me endure and take lesson, do not be discouraged, do not be self-righteous, give thanks and serve with godliness and your gracious words will be accomplished!

**Job 12 / Heb 13**

**Main theme: Do good with love and suffer to obey the will is true wisdom**

**-Knowledge / Love**

Golden verses: Job 12:9, 13, Heb 13:8

A discussion on knowledge and love – on one side it concerned Job was dissatisfied and unconvinced of the attitude of his friends who thought themselves as clever. He also thought himself as wise, knowledgeable and not unequal to them. He fretted over the prosperity of the wicked. While the other side encouraged us to do good with love, to suffer to obey God’s will and to do what pleased God. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. (1 Cor 8:1) The view point of suffering of the Job’s friends could not help him. Rather it created bad feeling to him. Only when God personally appeared with love and truth could Job be subdued.

**A. Do not fret, suffer to follow the Lord and do good with love**

Dissatisfied (Job 12:1-12) – Love one another (Heb 13:1-13)

1.【Arouse grievance and dissatisfaction】1-6 Job resented to the unreasonable rebuke of his friend and was unconvinced. Thus he satirized the wisdom of Zophar was exclusive from the world. In fact , "I have a mind as well as you. I am not inferior to you. Who does not know all these things?" Job felt he was wronged. He was so righteous and blameless, yet he became a laughing stock of his friends! Thus he was fretter to those at ease and the violent. He did not understand that affliction could bring him to a holy and loving state.

※【Encourage to be holy and love one another】1-6 Ensure to keep on loving each other as brothers and do not forget to entertain strangers. Remember those who are afflicted and keep the holiness in marriage and money. Job suffered such severe affliction and his friends accused him transversely without love. He was unable to gain a little thoughtfulness, support or acceptance. Thus he felt very bitter and tried to counterattack. The Lord had said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Why be fretful? Only the Lord will help him. Why turn to men's help?

2.【Rebuke the friend as unwise】7-12 Job rebuked his friend as unwise and worse than the birds and animals who knew God's deeds. The life of every creature and the breath of all mankind are in the hand of God and His hand has done these. Job thought himself was wise. He thought that wisdom and understanding did not depend on the age.

※【Pay attention to imitate the example】7-13 We ought to learn from God's servants who led us and consider the outcome of their way of life lest we may be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. We should all the more imitate Jesus who suffered. He denied Himself and sacrificed to be our sin offering. Let us, then, go outside the camp and follow Him to Mount Calvary and bear the disgrace He bore. God did not want Job to bear the wisdom and understanding in the mind but to run a suffering, self-denial and persevering path to understand God's love deeply and die completely to his old self. He ought to be strengthened by grace and finally to become an example who could bear suffering and endurance for the saints of future generations.

**B. Wisdom belongs to God, do what please God, give thanks and praise**

Understand the will (Job 12:13-25) – Praise (Heb 13:14-25)

1.【Ought to understand God’s good will】13-16 Job exclaimed God had wisdom and power, counsel and understanding. His kingdom rules over all and He is the Sovereign Lord of all. He thought what God tore down, men could not rebuild. The man He imprisoned, men could not release. But he did not know God tore him and imprisoned him so He might rebuild him and release him. (Jer 45:4; Ecc 3:1-3) God had a good plan on him so he might double his blessings in the end.

※【Offer a sacrifice that pleases God】14-16 God's will is to let us endure the suffering on the cross and be willing to suffer to do good. (1 Pe 3:17-18) Then we will gain the city that is to come. We ought to offer the sacrifice pleasing to God: (1) the sacrifice of praise. Job only knew the Sovereignty and majesty of God. He did not understand His unfailing love and good will. How could he be grateful and praise God? (2) A sacrifice to do good and share with others. Job did not understand God's good will was to let him experience suffering and do good. If his three friends had grasped the opportunity to show their love to Job and do good, they might spare the wrath of God. (Job 42:7)

2.【God’s will is mysterious and unsearchable】17-25 Though Job thought himself was wise, he had to acknowledge God's deeds were esoteric in all things. No one could change His will. God led the counselors and priests away stripped and made fools of judges. He disarmed the mighty and revealed the deep things of darkness. All these revealed God was righteous who rewarded the good and punish the evil.

※【Do what please God’s will】17-25 We ought to obey our leaders and submit to their authority who keep watch over us, so when they have to give an account. they are not burdened. The last wish: May the great Shepherd of the sheep who was brought back from the dead Jesus equip us with everything good for doing His will. Glory be to Him. God's will was not hard to understand but because Job did not understand he had to suffer to obey God's will in silence and bear the disgrace. When the time came, the righteous God would accomplish for him so he would be comforted and rewarded and became a priest after God's own heart.

**Ps 8 / Rev 10:8 Main theme: Take the scroll again, make every effort to pursue to know the Lord**

**-The Lord’s name / The holy book**

The voice from heaven spoke once more to eat the holy book. The little scroll is the book of the books. We ought to pay attention to the word of the prophets and this is good.

(1)【Thirst to drink the spiritual milk and understand the Lord’s name】1-2 The Lord's name is His Word. (Rev 19:13) He is willing to reveal His Word to him who is humble to thirst like the children to silence the foe and manifest His Glory. (Lk 10:19; 21-22)

(2)【Thirst for the Word, obey it and gain power】3-9 He will be cared by God and be crowned with glory and honor. He makes him ruler over everything and put everything under his feet like Joshua was able to summon the sun and the moon and Daniel was able to shut the mouths of the lions.

**Central point of the wheels: Thirst for the Lord’s Word humbly, do good with love and suffer to obey the will**

Dear Lord, may You let me follow You silently, to run a denying, suffering and narrow path, to pursue love and offer the good sacrifice that pleases You!

**Job 13 / Jas 1**

**Main theme: Do not argue, plead by faith, endure the bitter refinement and enter maturity**

**-Suffer / Endure (argue / obey the Word)**

Golden verses: Job 13:12 Jas 1:12

A discussion on suffering and endurance – on one side it concerned Job’s friends were worthless physicians, full of defenses of clay and could not resolve Job’s perplexity. Thus Job turned to argue with God and greatly exposed his old self. On the other side it concerned the suffering James. Before he was martyred, he encouraged the saints who were in trials to persevere to obey the Word, to serve the Lord in a godly manner and they would be blessed. Job was under all sorts of trials but could not have the exhortation from his friends. Their drug was not symptomatic but even added misery to Job. Only the Lord’s words are good medicine which made him die to the old self completely and be healed.

**A. Do not argue, do not be self-righteous, blessed is he who perseveres the trials**

Folly (Job 13:1-19) – Wisdom (Jas 1:1-18)

1.【Worthless physicians add suffering】1-4 Job rebuked his friends and they smeared him with lies. They presumptuously added guilt to him. They were all worthless physicians and made him more bitter and could not be healed. Job thought he had seen all this with his eyes and heard with his ears. He was not inferior t them. Thus he turned to argue with God to know the truth.

※【Persevere with faith and have pure joy】1-4 James humbled to be the servant of Christ. He suffered and he also encouraged the saints to consider the trials as pure joy. A cheerful heart is good medicine. (Pro 17:22) The harsh rebuke of Job's three friends made him lost the joy and faith. The faith of Job also needed to be tested in order to develop perseverance. His friends' condemnation and disdain were to refine him to learn perseverance to the end without arguing with God and men. Then he might be mature and complete to look up to the heavenly doctor and gain the complete recovery from God full of joy!

2.【Defenses of clay show folly】5-12 Job rebuked his friends for speaking deceitfully for God with a lot of lessons but without value. They were just like proverbs of ashes and defenses of clay. They only showed their folly and could not stand. Job also rebuked them for secretly showing partiality. God would surely punish them.

※【Pure proverbs gain wisdom】5-12 The Lord promised those who lack wisdom should ask God by faith without doubt and it would be given to them. Job and his friends argued with one another and had no wisdom. Job was like a wave of the sea. Since he could not get anything from his friends, why not ask God? He was double-minded and thus he gained nothing. The meaningless of this world and the short-lived of wealth are like the withered plant. But God is righteous! He exalts the humbled and the rich takes pride in his low position. The words of the friends were like proverbs of ashes. God's words are pure! (Ps 12:6) Those who trust in Him will have wisdom, be exalted and stand firm forever. God promised that blessed is the man who perseveres under trial! Job also gained the crown of life after the trials.

3.【Still hold on to self-righteousness】13-19 Job insisted he was righteous. He claimed himself pure and godly. If anyone would bring charges against him and state his wrong, he preferred to die.

※【Understand the corruption of the flesh】13-18 How corrupt is man's flesh? There is nothing good in him. We are always dragged away and enticed by our own evil desire and thus committed sin. Job was enraged by his friends and also fell in trials. He blamed God and men, and could not overcome. We ought to look up to the perfect gift which is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly light. Then we may be justified by God to be the firstfruit to glorify God because God does not change like shifting shadows.

**B. Remove clearly the old self and obey the Word in a godly manner**

Defend (Job 13:20-28) – Be godly (Jas 1:19-27)

1.【May God hear his defense】20-25 Job requested God to withdraw His hand from him and stop frightening him with His terrors, to listen quietly to his defense and point out his actual wrongs. Why did He hide His face and consider him His enemy like tormenting a windblown leaf and dry chaff? He did not understand why the upright should suffer.

※【Listen and walk the Lord’s Way is blessed】19-25 Let us be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Job was full of anger. He could not stop to make God hear his defense to show his righteousness. But he could not quiet down to hear God's voice. Suffering and terror were to make him die completely to men's words, be freed from all sins and thirst to receive God's Word. But he was straightforward and asked God to instruct him the number of wrongs and sins he had committed. He did not reflect on his own nature through the words of God and men to be contrite deeply. He had to listen and obey the Lord's Word and then he would be blessed. He thought God had ill-treated him. But he did not know a bruised reed He would not break, and a smoldering wick He would not snuff out. (Isa 42:3)

2.【Vent the old self and fall into hopelessness】26-28 The words of Job were endless and full of his old self. He thought God punished him and made him inherit the sins of his youth. He kept close watch on all his paths and fastened his feet in shackles and put him to desperation like a windblown leaf. God made him suffer so as to let him understand deeply his self-righteousness was like something rotten and a garment eaten by moths.

※【Ought to live your days in a godly way before God】26-27 He who listens and walks the Way of the Lord, if he keeps a tight rein on his tongue, he will arrive at the stage of godliness without being futile and self-righteous. The pure and faultless religion is to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. Job fell into loneliness while his friends did not show him any love. They attacked him successively. In his desperation, he could not keep a tight rein on his tongue and could not arrive at the religious stage. Job ought to pursue godliness, holiness and love. Then God would remove his garments eaten by moths and let him put on a righteous robe of glory. He would love God and men and serve Him with godliness!

**Ps 9 / Rev 10:9 Main theme: Eat up the holy book, destroy all evil completely and proclaim the Lord’s grace extensively**

**-Eat up / Proclaim extensively**

Eat up the scroll, understand the Lord’s words, deny yourself to follow the Lord, the body will suffer but the mouth will declare the Lord’s gracious words so man will gain life.

(1)【Be joyful and give thanks to proclaim the Lord】1-2 Do not hide away the grace of the Lord but be willing to proclaim Him.

(2)【The Lord destroys my enemies and makes me holy】3-7 The truth sanctifies me and destroys my inner and outer enemies. The Lord is forever my King.

(3)【The Lord is the shelter】8-10 Whoever seeks and trusts in the Lord, He will save and protect.

(4)【We ought to proclaim the Lord’s salvation extensively】11-14 Let us exhort one another. We ought to preach the grace of the Lord to the whole world and declare the Lord had saved us from the gates of death and all His great deeds.

(5)【The wicked will return to the grave】15-17 The wicked do not trust in the Lord. They harm themselves and others.

(6)【The hope of the afflicted will never perish】18-20 Obey and preach His Word. When the time comes, the hope of the afflicted will be accomplished. The enemies will fall!

**Central point of the wheels: Eat up the Lord’s words, persevere to walk the Way, destroy evil and proclaim extensively**

Dear Lord, may You make me persevere to keep the Word, to overcome the trials, be healed by You, be blessed with joy and proclaim your salvation!

**Job 14 / Jas 2**

**Main theme: Do not be negative and miserable; do good by faith and gain rich reward**

**-Be pessimistic / Do good (be negative/be positive)**

Golden verses: Job 14:4, Jas 2:22

A discussion on pessimism and doing good – on one side it concerned Job sighed life was short and full of trouble like a flower, a shadow which disappeared momentarily. Thus he asked God not to torment him. He lamented that he was physically and spiritually miserable, bitter and hopeless. On the other side we ought to consider God’s mind to treat men justly, love others as we love ourselves and to live out the faithful behavior. We ought to imitate Abraham, who in his hopelessness still had hope due to faith. Job in his distress ought to experience God who turns nothing to something and the faith of resurrection from death. This is deeds with faith so that we will not be pessimistic and hopeless.

**A. Do not be pessimistic, suffer to obey the Word and treat men with love**

Be pessimistic (Job 14:1-12) – Be compassionate (Jas 2:1-13)

1.【Sigh the misery and bitterness of fate】1-6 From his own misfortune, Job sighed the shortness and bitterness of life was like a flower withered away and like a fleeting shadow which turned to nothing by the blink of an eye. Did God fix His eyes on such a person and bring judgment upon him? Since men were impure, why not let him enjoy his short life? Why would He require men had to be blameless? Thus he requested God to look away from him and let him alone till he finished his life like a hired man had put in his time.

※【Consider God’s mind to show compassion to men】1-8 We believe in our glorious Jesus Christ and ought to be full of hope in our life. We ought to live out the life of love of Christ in this short and futile life without favoritism. Those who wear gold ring and fine clothes are like a flower which withers in a moment. How can we value this one and take that one lightly? Job was originally a man of honor. But now he was stripped off by God to humble. He had sores all over his body and became a laughing stock of his friends. This was to make him be abundant in faith to inherit the kingdom of God. So he might go through hardship to bear the mind of God to be compassionate, be fair to men and love one another as he loved himself. The three friends of Job did not have mercy. They cruelly judged Job and blindly insulted and oppressed him. They profaned the honorable name of God.

2.【Faith triumphs over death】7-12 Job considered if a tree was cut down, there was hope it would sprout again. If a man died, he would not return. A tree grew old and died. Yet at the scent of water, it would spring up and grow. When a man lied down, he would not rise up or be roused from his sleep. Job had lost faith in life. He was facing death but did not understand God had a good will on him so he might experience God's great power of resurrection!

※【Mercy triumphs over judgment】9-13 We cannot show favoritism and violate God's righteous law. Those who had not been merciful to others like the three friends of Job would be judged without mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment! Job was like a tree being cut down. He went through bitter dealing and the shadow of death. When the words of God and the spirit of God came upon him like the scent of water, he was awakened, like a tree sprouted and renewed. He finally overcame death and lived out the new life full of God's mercy and triumphed over judgment!

**B. Do not be hopeless, faith goes with deeds and be compassionate to men**

Hopelessness (Job 14:13-22) – Faith (Jas 2:14-26)

1.【Only ask God to remember me】13-15 In Job's bitterness and desperation, he asked God to hide him in the grave till His anger had passed. He prayed God might remember him in His set time. If a man died, would he live again? He only hoped all his days of hard service would pass and he might be released to restore his communication with God.

※【Always remember the poor and needy】14-18 We have the faith and ought to have the deeds of love; not just with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth. (Jn 1 3:17-18) We ought to grasp the opportunity to bring God's love to the afflicted and needy sisters and brothers. In Job's affliction and desperation he did not gain the help of love from his friends. Thus he requested God to remember him. After he had gone through the struggle between the spirit and the sinful nature and died completely to everything, (Ro 7:21-25; Gal 5:17) then he was able to bear the mind of God and remember more of the needy and became the spokesman of God's love.

2.【Troubled, miserable and hopeless】16-22 Job sighed God counted his steps and kept track of his sin and would not let him go. As a mountain erodes and crumbles and as a rock is moved from its place, how much more do men? He complained God destroyed his hope and made him corrupt. He changed his countenance and sent him away. If his sons were honored, he would not know. Again he fell into great bitterness in the body and mind, misery and desperation.

※【Faith goes with deeds】19-26 Faith without deeds is useless like the body without the spirit is dead. The sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham was a practical performance of his deed in faith and he was called God's friend. Rahab the prostitute received the messengers and was considered righteous due to her deed in faith. Job was grieved and hopeless and was entangled in his righteousness. He lost the faith and had to undergo the eroding mountain and crushing rocks before he might resurrect from death and jump out from his self-righteousness and be justified by God. His old countenance was renewed to delight in God. He lived out the deeds with faith and gained double blessings. He personally saw his children were honored. He was full of witness and no more bitter.

**Ps 10 / Rev 10:10 Main theme: Eat up the holy book, discern the enemy’s plot and grab to save the dying sheep**

**-See through / The holy book**

If we eat up the holy words and bear a suffering spirit to obey and proclaim the Word, our mouth will certainly pour out gracious words sweeter than anything. If our body bears the cross to suffer, we may ask the help of the Lord.

(1)【The wicked hunts down】1-11 Those who love the Lord, obey and preach His Word are the target of the enemies' pursuit. Their more venomous plot was to lie in wait and catch. (David had fallen into the trap of lust.)

(2)【May the Lord raise up to destroy the enemies】12-18 God has seen the trouble and grief of the enemies. He will repay and destroy them. But He will hear the oppressed and accomplish the desire of the afflicted, so all people may be released from the oppression and trouble of the enemies and gain the joy of salvation together!

**Central point of the wheels: Do not be pessimistic, eat up the holy words, have faith and deeds and plead thoroughly**

Dear Lord, may You give me the faith to keep your Word, to have mercy on men, do not be pessimistic and hopeless and live out your glorious image!

**Job 15 / Jas 3**

**Main theme: Prevent from speaking evil words, be tender and compassionate, bear more good fruit**

**-Evil words / Good acts (suffer / be godly)**

Golden verses: Job 15:5-6as 3:2, 17

A discussion on evil words and good acts – on one side it concerned the second round of argument between Job and his three friends. Eliphaz displayed an attitude as aged and a teacher. He severely rebuked Job’s words as ungodly and unrighteous. He declared that the wicked would receive their retribution. On the other side it concerned the humble, tender and highly esteemed James. He exhorted men ought to be perfect in what he said. Thus they ought to check their tongues and be a wise man to exhibit the good act.

**A. Do not presume to be teachers, suffer to be perfect and control the tongue**

Self-righteous (Job 15:1-16) – Perfect (Jas 3:1-8)

1.【Regard oneself as a teacher and rebuke others】1-6 Eliphaz posted himself with the sanctity of a teacher and was rude in his speech. He rebuked Job's words as hot east wind, empty and useless, and hindered devotion to God. He defended his sin and his mouth condemned himself.

※【Never at fault in what one says and enter perfection】1-3 James exhorted us not to presume to be teachers for we might be judged more strictly. He encouraged that if anyone was never at fault in what he said, he was a perfect man. He would be able to keep his whole body in check. Eliphaz belonged to the flesh. He loved to be a teacher and rebuked Job was guilty. This further disclosed he was at fault in his words and he had hindered devotion to God. He could not escape his judgment. How futile it is if men's words are like the hot east wind! God's words are as the rain and the snow come down from heaven. They will not return empty but moisten men's heart. Men ought to request for an instructed tongue to know the word that sustains the weary and teach many. (Isa 50:4)

2.【Judge presumptuously and rebuke】7-16 Eliphaz considered himself an elder and rebuked Job as supercilious. He claimed Job had limited wisdom to himself and negated the wisdom of the aged. Thus he interrogated Job why did his eyes flash and rage against God. Eliphaz claimed how could men be pure. If God placed no trust in His holy ones and if even the heavens were not pure, how much less man, who was vile and corrupt, who drank up evil like water! How could men be self-righteous before God!

※【Cannot control the tongue】3-8 The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts like a small spark can set a great forest on fire. The tongue is a world of evil and corrupts the whole person. All kinds of animals can be tamed, but no man can tame the tongue. How can men be self-righteous before the holy God? But now, we are justified freely by the redemption of Christ. (Ro 3:20-24) The tongue is like a very small rudder, if steered by the pilot - the Holy Spirit, will ride through the wind and pass the waves. We ought to deal with ourselves by the Holy Spirit, and then we may tame our tongue and be guarded in God's love. Eliphaz let his mouth spoke presumptuously and could not be tamed. His tongue was also a world of evil. He blindly admonished Job was self-righteous but he did not point out the living path of justice by faith.

**B. Have self-control, suffer and be godly, search true wisdom**

Ungodly (Job 15:17-35) – Godly (Jas 3:9-18)

1.【How can we convict arbitrarily】17-24 Eliphaz claimed to be a wise man. He taught Job to pay attention what he had received from his fathers. The wicked man suffered torment all his days. He would be repaid without peace.

※【How can we have two tongues in one mouth】9-12 How can we praise God with the tongue and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness? A spring cannot flow two types of fresh water and salt water. Two different types of trees bear different fruit. The evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. (Mt 12:35) There was no good in Eliphaz, so nothing good could be brought out of him. According to his understanding, Job was to be blamed for his suffering. Eliphaz was exactly a man of two tongues.

2.【Suffer retribution for being ungodly】25-35 Eliphaz pointed out the sinful actions of the wicked. They were arrogant and against God. They attacked the Almighty. Thus the breath of God's mouth would carry them away. (2 Th 2:8) They were worthless and self-deceiving, crafty and take bribery. They conceived trouble and gave birth to evil. The company of the godless was like an olive tree shedding its blossoms and turned to nothing.

※【Search godliness and gain wisdom】13-18 We ought to pursue the wisdom which comes from heaven and train ourselves in godliness. We ought to pursue purity, peace-loving, consideration, submission, full of mercy and good fruit, without impartiality and insincerity. The wisdom of the company of the godless was full of earthly, unspiritual, and of the devil. Their hearts harbored bitterness, envy and selfish ambition. They were lying and denied the truth. The three friends of Job did not show any compassion toward the suffering of Job. They just made some casual talk full of prejudice and bitterness, and were explicitly not from the wisdom of heaven. They were not beneficial to the suffering Job and belonged to a company of the godless.

**Ps 11 / Rev 10:11 Main theme: Through trials, obey the Word by the Lord and will be mightily used again**

**-Be tested / Be mightily used**

Eat up the scroll completely, go through trials and keep the Word. Then God will use mightily, be used again and again so all people be blessed.

(1)【Trust in the Lord, obey the Word and do not be trapped by the enemy’s plot】1-3 Obey the Word by the Lord and let the foundation be set on the Rock. Do not be hit by the arrows of the evil or fly to other mountains (other gods) because our foundations will be destroyed and all we do are meaningless if we depart from God's words.

(2)【God inspects and He examines】4-5 God is high up in heaven and examines the sons of men. He seeks those who love Him and obey His Word to accomplish His will. But He hates the wicked.

(3)【God punishes the wicked and rewards the good】6-7 The wicked will drink the cup of God's wrath but the righteous' cup are full of blessings. They may see the Lord's face and prophesy to many nations, peoples, languages and kings. They are used by the Lord and will be used again. The kindness is greater than that which God showed earlier.

**Central point of the wheels: Through trials be godly and perfect to proclaim the Lord’s Word**

Dear Lord, may You let me be tested, to be trained to be godly, to prevent me from evil words, be sanctified by the Word to proclaim and praise You all my life!

**Job 16 / Jas 4**

**Main theme: Do not be troubled and do not dispute, be humble to seek grace, remove all evil and do good**

**-Be troubled / Seek grace (defend / do good)**

Golden verses: Job 16:18-19, Jas 4:14-15

A discussion on troubles and seeking grace – on one side it concerned Job refuted Eliphaz’s rebuke. He expressed that the friends’ comfort added to his trouble. He stated he was severely attacked by God and hoped that God would hear his defense. On the other side it concerned James admonished the saints not to fight and quarrel and not to choose to be a friend of the world. Rather they ought to be humble to seek grace, be close to God and do good by God and boast by the Lord.

**A. Do not be troubled and do not fight, forsake the secular and be humble to seek grace**

Be troubled (Job 16:1-16) – Seek grace (Jas 4:1-12)

1.【Refute his friends】1-5 Job rebuked his friends did not stand in his position and only spoke words of no importance. If the situation had reversed, he could have said the same, or at least better than they. The long-winded speeches instead made him miserable.

※【Fight and quarrel】1-3 Fights and quarrels come from the desires that battle within us. The argument between Job and his three friends also came from the flesh and old self. Men cannot separate from the desires if they have not gone through bitter refinement. Greediness, killing, envy and quarrel will not gain anything. Job strived to obtain the understanding of his friends and he also asked with wrong motives. As a conclusion, to pursue the desires of the flesh was only a waste on the spending on the pleasures and long winded quarrel.

2.【State the troubles historically】6-10 Job continued to state all his troubles. As his pain had not be relieved, he could not stop his words. He thought God had bound him and was against him. God assailed him and tore him in His anger so his gauntness rose up. His entire household had devastated him and his opponent pierced at him. They opened their mouth to jeer at him and unite against him.

※【Humble to seek grace】4-6 James warned the saints: those who had friendship with the world is adulterous. They had hatred toward God. God made Job suffer and was disgraced in order to make him reject the world and choose to be a friend of God so he would not ask with wrong motives toward the environment and to men. Instead he would be humble to seek grace from God. God promised to give grace to the humble. But He would oppose the proud.

3.【Being dealt with bitterly and complain to God】11-16 Job felt hard to endure God's dealing. He did not understand why God threw him into the clutches of the wicked and crushed him. God made him His target and shot him from all directions. Again and again God burst upon him like a warrior rushed at him. Thus he wept and was miserable. He couldn't wait to die early.

※【Purify the heart and hands to go near to God】7-12 God is most holy. If we go near God with clean hands and a pure heart, God will come near us. If we resist the devil, he will flee from us. Job was dealt with physically and mentally and thus he complained to God. He did not understand God's will was to break his old self from his inner self to pursue the inner holiness to obey God's will, to resist the devil and be nearer to God! Since we have only one Judge who is able to save and destroy, then we should not judge one another. Why be grievous to complain God?

**B. Die to the old self completely and trust in God to do good**

Defend (Job 16:17-22) – Trust in God (Jas 4:13-17)

1.【Be innocent】17 Job stated God was against him for no reason. He thought God also witnessed he was guilty. He still insisted his hands were free of violence and his prayer was pure.

※【Boast of the Lord】13 A man's life, breath and the boundary of his age are determined by God. A man's life is not his own. (Jer 10:23; Ac 17:25-26) Therefore, do not boast and brag. Job should not have boasted of his innocence. The surrounding attacks from his friends exposed more and more of his old self. Therefore, no men can boast before God, not even one. Let him boast in the Lord.

2.【Defend to the Lord】18-22 Job called out to the earth not to cover his innocent blood. Since he knew his witness was in heaven and his advocate was on high, then why did he pour out his tears and plead to God when his friends treated him with scorn?

※【Do good positively】14-17 Our life is just a mist that vanishes in a while. Therefore we should not boast and brag. We ought to exalt God as holy, do good by Him and obey His will. Since God was the witness of Job, he ought to look up to the advocate on high to be his ever present help. Why should he plead by himself.

**Ps 12 / Rev 11:1 Main theme: The Lord’s words measure, be godly to obey the Word and the Lord will protect**

**-The Lord’s words / To measure**

God’s words are the yardstick. (Isa 8:20) The temple, the altar (the sacrifice and the work) and also the worshipers would be measured. Those that were not up to standard would be in vain.

(1)【There is no godly and faithful man】1-4 Everyone has flattering lips and speaks with deception. Truly the dangerous end time has come.

(2)【Be godly and obey the Word, then God will protect】5-8 Whoever leads a godly life will be persecuted. But God will save him from the trials and protect him forever. He will not allow the wicked to act presumptuously. Though the genuine children belonging to God have trouble on earth, there is true peace in the Lord which cannot be taken away.

**Central point of the wheels: The Lord’s words measure, be godly to obey the Word, turn from evil by grace and do good**

Dear Lord, may You let me be humble to seek grace, do not choose to be a friend of the world, do not fight with men, obey the Word and do good, and serve You in a godly manner!

**Job 17 / Jas 5**

**Main theme: Be patient to keep the Word, pray to save men and there is great hope**

**-Be hopeless / Be patient (suffer / pray)**

Golden verses: Job 17:9, Jas 5:7-8

A discussion on hopelessness and patience – on one side it concerned that Job due to his friend’s mockery and conviction; he sought God to be his pledge. His spirit was broken and fell into hopelessness and anguish, waiting to die. On the other side it concerned James warned the rich. They oppressed the poor and would be judged. He also exhorted the suffering people to be patient and wait, to pray with faith and see God’s grace. Job endured the suffering and went through the journey in the desert. He would finally have a good ending and become the example of the ancient and modern saints who suffered.

**A. Suffer and be patient, be blessed and revive, God will redress**

Suffer (Job 17:1-7) – Be patient (Jas 5:1-8)

1.【May God be the pledge】1-5 As Job had dwelled on the hostility of his friend who mocked him for no reason, he pleaded God to be his pledge to state his innocence. His spirit was broken and he felt very bitter. Further due to the denunciation and disloyalty of his friend, he was fretful. He even asked God to punish him and the eyes of his children might fail.

※【God will examine】1-6 God upholds the cause of all the oppressed and lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps 146:7-8) Therefore James warned the rich to weep and wail. They oppressed the poor and hoarded wealth. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of God. Job suffered the false charge and condemnation of his friend. God also saw his wrongful treatment and would pledge for him and defend for him. So why by fretful? The three friends of Job did not bear his suffering and charged the righteous guilty like the rich who only knew how to indulge on themselves. God would examine.

2.【Suffer all the disgrace】6-7 Job became a byword to everyone. They insulted him and spit on him. His body was weak like a shadow. How could he endure?

※【Be patient to wait】7-8 How the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop till the autumn and spring rains; we too ought to be firm in our faith to endure to wait for the pouring of the Holy Spirit promised by God. So we may reap the harvest and restore the land to welcome the Lord's coming. (Jo 2:23-27; Ac 1:8) Job suffered innocently and endured the disgrace. If he could persevere to wait till the end, God would turn the spittle and ridicule which he endured to autumn and spring rain. He would have double the blessings and be full of joy. No one whose hope is in Him will ever be put to shame!

**B. Do not be hopeless, pray with faith and grab to save the sinners**

Be hopeless (Job 17:8-16) – Pray (Jas 5:9-20)

1.【Refute of one’s righteousness】8-10 Job still held firm to righteousness and uprightness despite his extreme bitterness. He deeply believed the righteous who held to their ways with clean hands would be strengthened by God and even stronger. As his old self deep inside had not died completely, he still argued with his friend to prove his righteousness. He stressed there was no wise men among his friends who could make righteous judgment.

※【Be patient is blessed】9-11 We should not grumble against each other, lest we may be judged because the Judge is standing at the door! The three friends of Job argued with him severely and attacked and complained against each other. Actually who was right and who was wrong? God would finally make the righteous judgment personally. When Job despised himself and his words before God and abandoned his self-righteousness, God would be compassionate to him and show him mercy so his suffering and endurance would become an example to others. The righteous who endure to suffer are never in vain. God calls them blessed! His three friends thought themselves wiser than others, but they had greatly shown their folly!

2.【Fall into hopelessness again】11-15 Again Job fell into desperation. He longed to die and took the grave as his only hope. Corruption and worms became his love ones.

※【Pray with faith】12-18 Do not swear or be self-righteous lest we may be condemned. The church ought to pray for the afflicted and the sick, to confess their sins to each other and pray for each other. The prayer of a righteous man is effective which can make a dead man rise up and the scorched land have rain. Again Job fell into desperation. But men's end is the beginning of God! Right now he needed faith and prayer so his body and soul might be healed and be redeemed. But no one prayed for him, thus he fell into desperation. Job and his three friends insisted on their own view. How could they be favored? When Job was contrite before God, He would save him from the grave and turn his body of corruption and worms to a glorious priestly garment!

3.【Wait to die】16 Job was miserable and desperate. He lost his faith and could only descend into the dust and go down to the gates of death.

※【Grab to save the lost】19-20 Many have wandered from the truth. We ought to bear the mind of God and bring them back and save them from death. (Jude 1:22-23) Job had gone to the end and lost his direction. He was near death. But there was no one to stretch out a merciful hand to help him so he might turn to God. Only those who had gone through hardship would be able to bear the afflicted and the lost and to grab to save them with God's forgiving love and cover over a multitude of sins. (1 Pe 4:8)

**Ps 13 / Rev 11:2 Main theme: There is a time for suffering, so pray watchfully and keep the Word, and be richly favored**

**-A time / Rich favor**

(1)【There is a time for suffering】1-2 When darkness reigns and the saints are trampled, do not fall due to the Lord. We ought to remember well the Lord never forgets us. There is a limit to hardship. This calls for faith and patient endurance on the part of the saints.

(2)【Pray we may be watchful and strengthened】3-4 If we sleep and fall, we will fail and be disgraced.

(3)【Trust in God’s unfailing love】5-6 Obey the Word by God and endure to the end, then we will rejoice for He has been good to me.

**Central point of the wheels: Suffer and be patient, pray watchfully and keep the Word and be richly favored**

Dear Lord, may You strengthen the suffering saints, that they may pray with faith, endure till the end, be blessed by You and be more than conquerors!

**Job 18 / 1 Pe 1**

**Main theme: Be holy and love one another will gain salvation; do evil and lose everything**

**-Trial / Faith**

Golden verses: Job 18:5-7, 1 Pe 1:3-4

A discussion on trials and faith – on one side it concerned Bildad (son of strife) mercilessly rebuked the suffering Job. He pointed out that Job would face the ending of the wicked. On the other side it concerned the greatly troubled Peter was full of God’s love. He wrote to comfort the suffering saints and encouraged them to fix their eyes on the heavenly everlasting hope and have faith and joy in the great trials. Finally he exhorted them to be holy, be self-controlled and to love one another deeply from the heart to put hope for the Lord’s coming. Job had gone through all kinds of trials. Then his faith, love and hope could increase.

**A. Do not be angry, through trials gain the promise**

Anger (Job 18:1-10) – Joy (1 Pe 1:1-12)

1.【Why be angry and quarrel】1-4 Bildad was the son of strife. He could no longer endure the endless quarrel of Job. Thus he rebuked Job when would he end his senseless speeches. Why would his friends be treated as cattle. Would the earth and the rocks change because of his anger?

※【Due to faith there is great hope】1-5 We who are sprinkled by the blood of the Lord ought to be grateful and praise God. In His great mercy Jesus Christ rose from the dead and gave us new birth into a living hope, an eternal inheritance from heaven and the salvation to be revealed in the last time. The Lord's promise gave men comfort and strength. Bildad's rebuke made Job more miserable and hopeless and unbearable. We ought to think of the promise of the Lord's coming and be hopeful due to faith.

2.【The light of the wicked will go out】5-10 Bildad stated the way of the wicked was gloomy and they would fall into their own schemes. There were traps and nooses waiting for them. As Job's suffering was not due to wickedness, he should not be afraid or care about it.

※【Filled with glorious joy】6-12 Faith after trials are of greater worth than gold which perishes even though refined by fire! Therefore, though we may suffer grief for a little while in all kinds of trials, we will be filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. Job's hardship was to let him come forth as gold. (Job 23:10) Though he was accused falsely and framed, without any future and gloomy, the mercilessness of his friends added misery to him. But finally one day God would show him mercy and gave him blessings upon blessings! The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness and makes them stumble. (Pro 4:18)

**B. Be holy and love one another, always hold on to the Lord’s Word and do not be afraid of the terror**

Convict (Job 18:11-21) – Love one another (1 Pe 1:13-25)

1.【The wicked will face terror and disasters】11-15 Bildad stated the wicked would encounter terror on every side, disaster, sickness and death. He would be torn from the security of his tent and turn to nothing.

※【The righteous will lead a life of godliness】13-19 We ought to be self-controlled and set our hope fully on the grace revealed by Christ. Do not conform to the evil desires we had when we lived in ignorance. And do not be like Bildad who cursed Job for no reason. Be obedient children and lead a holy and godly life. As we are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ from the empty way of life handed down to us from our forefathers, we must live a holy life. Job suffered a lot and was terrified so as to let him do away with sin and have a share in God's holiness.

2.【Without love and convict men】16-21 Bildad relentlessly rebuked Job and described his fate and result as the trouble of the wicked: his roots dried up below and his branches withered above. He was driven from light into darkness and had no offspring or descendants....

※【Through refinement love one another deeply from the heart】20-25 Our faith and hope are in God. Therefore we ought to obey the truth, purify our heart and love one another deeply. As we are born again through the living and enduring word of God, we ought to act according to the Lord's Word. Bildad endlessly confirmed the sin of Job. He did not have truth in him nor did he have God's love. The vanity of the world is like withered flower and grass. But the Word of the Lord stands forever! The wicked spring up like flowers and grass. The righteous will flourish like a palm tree and a cedar and forever planted in the house of God. (Ps 92:7-13) Job was thoroughly tempered by God and he kept His Word and love in his heart. Then there was no darkness in him and he was able to love his friends who had hurt him and interceded for them. God blessed Job and turned the curses of his friends to blessings. After he had returned, he flourished and was able to see his descendants till the fourth generation. (Job 42)

**Ps 14 / Rev 11:3 Main theme: Seek the Word and do good, grab tightly to proclaim the Word and save the captives**

**-Save men / Proclaim the Word**

(1)【Men’s heart is foolish and against God】1-4 In the wicked generation, there is no God in men's heart and they are presumptuous. They do detestable wicked things and no one does good. They persecute and devour God's people.

(2)【Trust in God and proclaim His Word to save the captives】5-7 God's children ought to grab the limited time to seek the Word and do good, bear the mind of God, pray and preach the Word, save the captivated by God to comfort the Lord's heart. Those who sow in tears with love and truth will be able to rejoice and harvest.

**Central point of the wheels: Through trials to gain the promise, seek the Word and proclaim it to save men**

Dear Lord, may You bestow me the precious faith, to rejoice by You, to live out a life to be holy and loving to glorify your name!

**Job 19 / 1 Pe 2**

**Main theme: Do not plead for men’s pity, crave the Lord’s words and endure the wrong, and do good**

**-Demolish / Build up**

Golden verses: Job 19:23-26, 1 Pe 2:21

A discussion on demolition and building up – on one side it concerned Job in his tribulation was deprived and destroyed by God. He sighed that his friends accused him falsely and his relatives loathed him. He believed God would defend his cause and apart from his flesh he would see God. On the other side it concerned Peter encouraged the saints to remove evil and love the Word to build the spiritual house. He also encouraged them to be patient to do good and follow the Lord’s suffering path. The purpose of God to demolish Job was to rebuild him so his life might become perfect to exhibit God and be a holy and royal priesthood.

**A. Demolish the old self, build up a spiritual house, and proclaim the Lord’s praises of Him**

Through demolition (Job 19:1-12) – Build a spiritual house (1 Pe 2:1-10)

1.【The old self must be demolished】1-6 Job insisted he was clean-handed. He could not bear his friends' insult. He did not understand God allowed his friends to torment, crush and reproach him in order to make him understand the stubbornness of his old self had completely exposed! "If it is true that I have gone astray, my error remains my concern alone." He wrongly thought God had wronged him and drawn his net around him and this had nothing to do with others.

※【Remove evil, love the Word and build a spiritual house】1-5 God wanted us to be like Jesus, the living Stone to be built into a spiritual house and be a holy priesthood. Then we must rid all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander and to crave the Lord's words and grow. God also wanted Job to be built into a spiritual house and be a holy priesthood. God intentionally demolish him through the insult of his friends to rid his inner corruption, so he might turn from a stubborn stone to a living stone and offer the spiritual sacrifice accepted by God to give thanks and praise Him.

2.【Be deprived by God completely】7-12 As Job was wronged, he cried and thought God would not respond. He got no justice and all his ways were blocked. His honor was stripped and his crown was removed. God uprooted his hope like a tree and His troops advanced in force like the three friends encamped to besiege him.

※【Been deprived and proclaim the praises of Him】6-10 Jesus Christ was the chosen and the precious cornerstone. Though He was rejected by the elect, the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame. But to those who do not believe, the Stone will causes them to stumble (refers to the Jews and all who reject salvation.) But we are a chosen royal priesthood that we may declare His wonderful light. Job was completely stripped. He saw himself as hopeless. Then he ought to trust in God and through God's uprooting and demolition, he would be built and established. He would have the crown of life to be the glorious witness of God to declare His wonderful light to lead men out of darkness into light.

**B. Do not plead for men’s pity, be patient to do good, and follow the Lord’s footpath**

Plead for pity (Job 19:13-29) – Follow the Lord (1 Pe 2:11-25)

1.【Forsake by the relatives and plead his friends for pity】13-22 Job groaned he was nothing but skin and bones. He became loathsome to his own brothers and friends. His maidservants counted him a stranger. His breath was offensive to his wife. Even the little boys scorned him. He was lonely and miserable. He asked his friends to pity him but he did not ask God to show him mercy.

※【Overcome the sinful desires and be patient to do good】11-19 We are as aliens and strangers in the world. We ought to abstain from sinful desires, endure to do good and live a godly life. Then we will have good witness to glorify God. Job was rejected by his love ones and fell into a lonely situation. If he had gone through the war between the spirit and the sinful desires and overcame the sinful desires, endures the suffering of the wrong and took delight in God without asking for men's mercy but feared God and trusted in Him, he would finally be shown mercy and turn from his bitter situation.

2.【Hope to see God apart from the flesh】23-27 Job insisted his innocence. History would forever be his witness. He firmly believed God would defend his cause. He knew that his Redeemer lives and longed to see God apart from his flesh. This showed he no longer put hope in men to save him.

※【Follow the Lord’ suffering footpath】20-23 We have no credit if we receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it. We ought to suffer for doing good and endure it. This is commendable before God. Christ had left us an example of His suffering that we should follow in His steps. When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not retaliate; when He suffered, He made no threats. When Job faced his friends in his suffering, he continuously argued. His old self was unwilling to be wronged. Since there is the Lord who judges men according to righteousness, an eternal Redeemer who would defend for him, he ought to be willing to accomplish the bitter path and wait for the resurrection in the last days.

3.【Vent the old self】28-29 Job was filled with his old self. He was enraged by his friends and thus he warned them not to blindly blame his suffering on sin. They should fear there would be judgment and they would repay.

※【Nail down the old self】24-25 The Lord was put on the tree. He silently endured all the hardship and bore our sins in His body. We ought to die to sins and live for righteousness. Job was like sheep going astray. He had turned to his own way without dealing with himself and dealt with his friends. How he wished his friends be punished and he would rejoice. The old self of Job also reflects our old self. We ought to die to sin and die to ourselves. Then we may live for God, (Ro 6:6-11) forgive the wrong of our friends in God's love to walk with Him, willing to endure everything to wait for the righteous judgment.

**Ps 15 / Rev 11:4 Main theme: Obey the Word and hate evil, plead and proclaim extensively, and all people are blessed**

**-The holy hill / To radiate**

(1)【Be righteous and blameless, and dwell with the Lord】1-5 Pursue righteousness, honesty, goodness, godliness and perfection. Hate evil and love good. Do not take usury and accept a bribe. Then our spirit will ascend to the mountain top and dwell with the Lord.

(2)【Serve before the Lord and all people are blessed】Be in one heart in the Lord and inquire of the Lord on His words for all people. Preach to all the people that the ways of the Lord may be known on earth, His salvation among all nations and be the lampstand of the generation.

**Central point of the wheels: Obey the Word and hate evil, die completely and build the temple, endure to do good**

Dear Lord, may You let me crave for your words to build a spiritual house, be a holy priest and shine to witness You gloriously!

**Job 20 / 1 Pe 3**

**Main theme: Be greatly disturbed and do evil, and be punished; fear God, do good and be blessed**

**-Turn from evil / Do righteously (evil result/righteous ending)**

Golden verses: Job 20:4-5, 1 Pe 3:17-18

A discussion on turning from evil and doing righteously – on one side it concerned the refutation of Zophar (exultation) to Job’s words. He was impatient and greatly disturbed and stated that the wicked would prosper but only for a moment. They would ultimately be destroyed. On the other side it concerned Peter encouraged the church with love and ought to live out the witness. The wives and husbands ought to play their part, be chaste and love each other. All of us ought to turn from evil and do good, be in one and love one another, to suffer for righteousness and be blessed forever. The wicked would have their evil ending while the righteous would have their righteous ending.

**A. Do not be greatly disturbed, turn from evil and do good, and love one another harmoniously**

Hurt others (Job 20:1-19) – Win over by the behavior (1 Pe 3:1-14)

1.【Rash words will hurt others】1-3 Zophar was greatly disturbed as he was agitated and refuted Job. He had cruelly rebuked him and insulted him. Now he was infuriated by the refutation of Job. He spoke rash words and hurt others. (Ecc 5:1-2)

※【A chaste behavior will win over others】1-3 Peter was full of experiences of hardship. He encouraged the wives to be submissive to their husbands with the gentle spirit of Christ and not to pursue the outward adornment. They ought to bear a chaste behavior and a reverence heart, then they would be able to win over their husbands who did not believe. Zophar did not have the love of God for Job. He appeared to be high above and spoke rashly. He hurt others. How could he win over men!

2.【The wicked prospers only for a moment】4-11 Zophar gave high talk. Since ancient times the triumph of the wicked was like a flash in the pan. How short-lived! The joy of the godless lasted but a moment. Though his pride reached to the heavens, he would perish forever like a dream he flew away. He died in his vigor. How meaningless!

※【Good examples lasts for generations】4-7 The women who believe in the Lord ought to be adorned by their inner unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, a godly adornment. (Pro 31:30) This is very precious before God. Sarah was adorned by this, holy and godly. She was submissive to her husband and became the good example of the ages! Husbands in the same way be considerate with their wives, bear with them and respect them so they may be heirs with them of the gracious gift of life. As a friend of Job, Zophar ought to consider him with love and bear with him. But he only used high talks to crush others to death. He presumptuously took Job as wicked which was terribly wrong!

3.【The wicked will eat their own bitter fruit】12-19 The wicked hates good but loves evil. He takes evil is sweet in his mouth, and he cannot bear to let it go. He spits out the riches he swallowed. God will finally make his stomach vomit them up. What he toiled for he must give back uneaten without enjoying. Whatever he got by oppression and seizure would turn to nothing in a moment.

※【Turn from evil and do good will be blessed】8-14 Finally, we ought to live in harmony, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil but turn from evil and do good. We will be blessed before God better than the riches of the earth if we suffer for what is right! We ought to get rid of the evil tongue and action to seek peace and pursue it. We ought to eagerly pursue the heavenly wealth, God's eternal love, righteousness and kind deeds. Keep these forever and we will never fail. (Ps 112:9; 1 Co 13:8) If the wicked do not turn from their evil, the Lord will turn His face against them. If Job pursued peace and repaid evil with good and forgave his friends, the Lord would hear his prayer.

**B. The wicked brings God’s wrath; to suffer for righteousness will be blessed**

Do evil (Job 20:20-29) – Do good (1 Pe 3:15-22)

1.【Have no respite from one’s craving and turns to nothing instantly】20-22 The wicked has no respite from his craving and his prosperity will not endure. Distress will overtake him and all kinds of misery will come upon him.

※【Lead men to be favored without failing】15-16 Set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have and reply with gentleness and respect. Always keep a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against our good behavior may be ashamed of their slander. The worldly blessings and riches are meaningless; they will surely sprout wings and fly off. (Pro 23:4-5) We need to live out the good behavior and lead men to be saved, then we will never fail! If Job set apart God as Lord and endured the slander of his friends, he would not be ashamed.

2.【Suffer for being wicked】23-29 While the wicked is enjoying his pleasure, God's anger will come upon him. Though he flees from an iron weapon, a bronze-tipped arrow pierces him and makes him terrified. This is the fate of the wicked.

※【Suffer to do good】17-22 It is God's will to suffer for doing good, better than for doing evil as we learn the example of Christ who suffered for righteousness. The world pleasures are all meaningless. If we lead men to enter the ark from perishing, then this is not meaningless. Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. We ought to bear a good conscience like Job who endured patiently and enjoyed the double blessings and the eternal reward!

**Ps 16 / Rev 11: 5 Main theme: Love the Lord wholeheartedly, be watchful to obey the Word, the mouth devours the enemies and be filled with eternal pleasures**

**-Only the Lord / Power**

(1)【Love God and men wholeheartedly will be safe】1-3 Do not thirst for anything apart from the Lord. Love the Lord, obey His Word and dwell in Him. Love the saints too and be watchful for them.

(2)【Be away from other gods and delight in what the Lord gives】4-6 Never sacrifice to other gods and do not take up their names. The Lord is my portion and I will be satisfied with what He gives.

(3)【Be watchful and careful to keep day and night】7-8 Always be watchful, pray unceasingly and keep the Lord's words firmly by Him.

(4)【Full of joy and hope】9-11 The Lord fills me with joy. He will not abandon Christ to the grave so He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him. Therefore I have great hope. He will lead me to the path of life so I may be close to Him full of power and enjoy the eternal pleasures.

**Central point of the wheels: Turn from evil and walk righteously, love God and keep His Word to avoid being harmed and gain blessings**

Dear Lord, may You let me love You wholeheartedly, be willing to suffer, to lead men to righteousness and live out the good witness!

**Job 21 / 1 Pe 4**

**Main theme: Do not fret, pray watchfully and love one another, and continue to do good**

**-Do not fret / Do good**

Golden verses: Job 21:22, 1 Pe 4:1-2

A discussion on do not fret and doing good – on one side it concerned Job took his personal experience and testified the view point of his three friends was not correct. He saw that the wicked were prosperous all their lives and fretted that they never encountered troubles. On the other side it concerned that to suffer for righteousness was blessed and it encouraged us the end of all things was near. Thus we ought to pray watchfully, love one another, continue to do good and surely the ending would be good. God will judge according to good and evil. Job did not need to fret but wait for God and ultimately there will be good reward. (Pro 24:19-20; Ro 2:6-11)

**A. Do not fret, suffer to obey the will, pray watchfully and love one another**

Do not fret (Job 21:1-19) – Pray watchfully (1 Pe 4:1-11)

1.【Follow the sinful nature and state to his friends】1-6 Job requested his friends to clap their hands over their mouth to listen carefully to his words and let this be the consolation they gave him and bear with him. He was impatient without peace, terrified and trembling. He decided to state clearly to his friends no matter if they mocked him. He followed the sinful nature to state to his friends and was spiritually more bitter.

※【Do not follow the sinful nature and only follow God’s will】1-3 Since Christ suffered in His body, we too ought to arm ourselves also with the same attitude! Job suffered not because of his sin, but he had to experience the suffering in the body, then he might be done with sin and be a man to comfort others. He insisted on his view and quarreled with his friends. He ought not to follow his sinful nature but on God's will and wait for Him patiently. We too ought to be the same. We have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans do.

2.【Fret for the wicked】7- 13 In Job's suffering, he could not understand why did the wicked grow old and increase in power. They had numerous offspring and rich wealth. Their homes were safe and their years prospered. Why did the scepter of God not fall on the wicked but added to him so they might die in an instant without blessings. From the ruthless fact, Job proved the wicked might not be in trouble. But he did not see the final result of the wicked and God's righteous judgment. Thus he became fretful and perplexed.

※【Do not plunge into the flood of dissipation】4-6 The path of the cross is narrow and will encounter a lot of hardship. (2 Ti 3:12) When the worldly men see that we do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, they heap abuse on us. It was not strange that Job suffered innocently and was slandered by his friends. Thus he ought not be fretful. They would have to give an account before God who judges the living and the dead. We ought not to plead for the prosperity of this life but pray to be confident when we give an account and be praised before the judgment seat of Christ.

3.【The wicked will receive the retribution personally】14-19 Job thought the wicked was arrogant and self-assuring. They despised God and did not know Him and His Word. Yet they prospered. He believed he would not thus follow the wicked. But since the children of the wicked would bear the sin of the father, it was better that the wicked received the repayment himself and let him drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

※【The end of all things is near】7-11 The end of all things is near. The reward is with God. He will give to everyone according to what he has done. (Rev 22:12) This encourages us to be clear minded and self-controlled so that we can pray. Love each other deeply. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. Job suffered great pain. Not only did his friends waived to help him deeply with love, instead they condemned him by all means resulting in sharp tongue fight between them. The three friends were ruthless and were not considerate. Rather, they judged Job's ending as the fate of the wicked which made him fretful and refute. Only by obeying the Lord's teaching to offer hospitality to one another without grumbling will let God be glorified in everything.

**B. Do not plead for men’s comfort, continue to do good to avoid being judged**

Refute (Job 21:20-34) – Do good (1 Pe 4:12-19)

1.【The good and evil will not have the same ending】20-26 Job believed the wicked ought to be repaid personally. Why should the descendants be repaid? Why was it that one man died in bitterness of soul, never had enjoyed anything good; while another man had blessings till death. They both lied in the dust. Both the righteous and the wicked could not escape death! But he did not know that just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment. (Heb 9:27) The righteous and the wicked will receive different result because God is righteous.

※【To suffer for the Lord will have good ending】12-14 Something strange seemed to be happening to the saints in their painful trial. But rejoice that they participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that they may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. Job sighed the kind and the wicked had the same result. But he did not know God is righteous. The result of the kind and the wicked is entirely different. Blessed is he who is insulted because of the name of Christ, for the Spirit of glory and of God rest on him. Job suffered and finally was blessed. His future would have a good ending!

2.【Refute the friends’ falsehood】27-34 Job endured the wrong of his friends who took him as wicked and thus hard to escape the bitter result. The evil man prospered all his life without any retribution and he was richly buried after death. Since the friends were nonsense, nothing was left of their answers. Job's heart ought to turn to God and he would receive the comfort from the righteous God.

※【Continue to do good to avoid being judged】15-19 Do not let yourself suffer due to murder, theft or any kind of criminal. Do not be ashamed if you suffer as a Christian, but praise God that you bear that name. It is the time for judgment to begin with the family of God. Who was right and who was wrong in the quarrel of Job and his friends? This would be revealed in God's judgment. As Job suffered for righteousness, he ought to do according to God's will to continue to do good without quarreling and refuting but commit himself to his faithful Creator. God will reward the good and repay the evil so he would be greatly comforted due to God's righteousness and unfailing love.

**Ps 17 / Rev 11:6 Main theme: Be careful to keep the heart, the mouth, and the behavior and have the power to save all people**

**-Be careful to keep / Power**

The two witnesses have spiritual power.

(1)【Keep the Lord’s words carefully and be blameless before God】1-5 Through the probing, examining and refining of God, keep the Lord's word so we may be perfect before God in our heart, our mouth and action to stand firm in the truth.

(2)【God will show His wonderful love】6-15 The prayer of the righteous is effective. The Lord will keep us as the apple of our eye. The Lord will save me and the children of God from the inner and outer mortal enemies. God will greatly reveal His power (like the prayer of Esther that could save herself and the whole tribe). We also pray that the Lord will save me from the short-lived blessings of this world and not be satisfied with wealth and children. We only pray to see the Lord's face and to preach the Word to save people all over the world to gain the blessing of eternity together and satisfy the Lord's heart.

**Central point of the wheels: Obey the will to suffer, continue to do good and be careful to keep our words and actions**

Dear Lord, may You let me not fret, to continue to do good, love one another deeply from the heart and wait for your righteous judgment.

**Job 22 / 1 Pe 5**

**Main theme: Do not judge presumptuously, lead men to believe firmly and stand firm according to God’s will**

**-Convict / Be shepherds (rebuke wantonly / exhort)**

Golden verses: Job 22:21-22, 1 Pe 5:10-11

A discussion on conviction and being shepherds – on one side it concerned Job and his friends had entered the third round of debate. Their view point was all according to the worldly philosophy and secular which could not persuade Job. Eliphaz convicted Job again by his old experience. He completely could not understand why the righteous suffer. On the other side it concerned Peter had the witness of the suffering Christ. He exhorted the elders with love and that they ought to be the example of the flock. He encouraged the saints to be watchful to stand firm, to be humble and obedient lest the devil would devour them.

**A. Do not rebuke wantonly, be a suffering witness, and shepherd the flock**

Rebuke wantonly (Job 22:1-15) – Exhort (1 Pe 5:1-7)

1.【Convict without reason】1-5 Again Eliphaz rebuked Job as 'the wicked would suffer' evidencing Job's suffering was due to his sin. He thought the righteous blameless men who feared God would not be judged for no reason.

※【Exhort with love】1-2 Peter was full of the love of Christ and the witness of suffering. He exhorted those who were elders to be shepherds of the flock and care for them as God wanted them to be; not because they had to or greedy for money, but because they were willing. Eliphaz did not have the experience of suffering and he did not understand God's love. But he condemned without reason. Though he was advanced in age, his life was superficial and could not persuade the suffering Job. If Job was willing to suffer, when the time came, he would enjoy the glory revealed by Christ.

2.【Endure the hardship of being wronged】6-11 Eliphaz spoke out of nothing and not according to the fact but by his own subjective to judge Job sinned. He rebuked him for no reason that he oppressed the poor and ill-treated the fatherless and widows. Therefore snares, perils and flood of water would suddenly come upon him to repay him for his wickedness. Thus Job had to persevere the wrong of injustice.

※【Be the example of the flock】3-4 Peter exhorted the elders not to lord over those entrusted to them but to deny themselves to obey the Word and be blameless to be the examples to the flock. (1 Ti 3:1-7) Eliphaz seemed to be on high and rashly accused Job. He transversely convicted and wronged the righteous. Job endured the wrong and when the Chief Shepherd appeared, he would receive the crown of glory that would never fade away. Only through bitter refinement, he would be able to consider God's mind to be the example of the flock.

3.【Rebuked by the friends presumptuously】12-15 Eliphaz presumptuously warned Job not to be self-deceiving. He thought God was in the heights of heaven and would not pay attention to examine. Further he warned him not to keep the path of the previous evil men for God would call to account.

※【Submit humbly】12-15 The young men ought to be submissive to those who are older. Even all of us ought to clothe ourselves with humility toward one another. God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Eliphaz took advantage of his age and was arrogant. He disciplined and warned Job for no reason. However, the Most High God examines everything. He will make a just judgment! (Ps 96:13) Learn to be humble in affliction. The three friends' presumptuous rebuke were to let Job learn humility and to trust and commit every worry and burden to the Lord. God would remember him.

**B. The Lord is the treasure, be watchful and stand firm, lest we may be devoured**

Judge presumptuously (Job 22:16-30) – Guard against the enemy (1 Pe 5:8-14)

1.【Reverse the right from wrong】16-20 Eliphaz stated the wicked thought God could not do anything to them. Their foundations were destroyed and they were carried off suddenly. They would take their evil result! The righteous saw their ruin and rejoiced. He presumptuously judged Job and claimed to be righteous. He had reversed the right and wrong to the extreme.

※【Be watchful and know your enemy】8-11 Be self-controlled and alert! The devil is like a roaring lion. On one side he takes advantage of the worldly temptation to devour God's children. On the other side he crushes them through all sorts of hardship. Job also ought to be self-controlled and alert to persevere hardship and the conviction of the friends with faith so his foundation would not shake. The God of all grace would himself accomplish this for him and give him a good ending. Eliphaz could see nothing. He judged presumptuously and was used by God to edify Job. God would make a just judgment.

2.【The medicine is not symptomatic】21-30 Eliphaz did not think clearly and gave wrong medicine. He judged Job was evil and quoted him a list of exhortation to expedite him to be humble and contrite to God. If he would abandon the love for gold and silver and riches, God would let the blessing of peace come upon him and save him.

※【Exhort sincerely】12-14 Finally Peter encouraged the church with love like a good medicine that suits the illness. He wanted them to stand fast in the grace of God. This grace is the true grace of God and far weighs all the treasures of the world. He also urged them to greet one another with a kiss of love. God's peace will come to all who are in Christ. Eliphaz actually did not understand why Job had to suffer. He pretended with a face of righteousness. But he had no love and convicted blindly. His medicine was not right and made the wrong judgment without any value. Affliction forced Job to take root before God to gain the true grace and enjoy peace forever.

**Ps 18 / Rev 11:7 Main theme: Cry out to be freed from the enemies, obey the Word till the end and gain the great deliverance**

-**Till the end / The great deliverance**

After the two witnesses gave the testimony, they were killed. The light and momentary troubles achieved for them an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

(1)【Cry out and trust in the Lord to overcome】1-18 By the power of the Lord be saved from the enemies and overcome all inner and outer enemies.

(2)【Obey the Word by the Lord】19-28 Be blameless before God and keep from sin.

(3)【Destroy the enemies by the Lord】29-45 Destroy all the sinful power of the enemies by the Lord and lead all people to God.

(4)【Give thanks and praise the Lord】46-49 We ought to give thanks and glorify God for everything due to God's salvation.

(5)【We ought to imitate David】50 Whoever learn from David to overcome to obey the Word and preach to the end by the Lord will be given rich grace and great love; just as the two witnesses who martyred for the Lord would gain the better resurrection. (2 Co 4:16-18)

**Central point of the wheels: Obey the Word by the Lord, proclaim the Word till the end and be loved by the Lord**

Dear Lord, I am willing to humble, to submit under your powerful hands, to follow You till the end no matter disasters or blessings, to be watchful to keep and overcome to praise!

**Job 23 / 2 Pe 1**

**Main theme: Do not faint, believe in the Lord’s words, be all the more eager and bear more fruit**

**-See with the eyes / Faith**

Golden verses: Job 23:10, 12, 2 Pe 1:5-8

A discussion on seeing with the eyes and faith – on one side it concerned Job emphasized his innocence again. He sighed he could not seek God in the front, at the back, or by the left or by the right. But he knew that when God had tested him, he would come forth as gold. On the other side it concerned that before the apostle Peter was martyred, he encouraged the saints to pursue the godliness and abundance in life by the precious faith from God, without ceasing to grow so as to inherit the glorious kingdom of Christ. Job pursued in his feeling and would certainly not see God. We live by faith, not by sight. (2 Cor 5:7)

**A. Not by what one see with the eyes, pursue by faith and tested to become gold**

Trial (Job 23:1-10) – Gold (2 Pe 1:1-11)

1.【Cannot seek God in feeling】1-9 As Job was tested, he groaned and had unspeakable bitterness. Again he stated his innocence to God. He believed God would not oppress him but judge him according to justice. He surely believed God would declare him innocent. However he was perplexed because he could not find Him neither on the right nor on the left.

※【Pursue by faith and one blessing after another】1-9 Due to the justification of Christ, we all have the precious faith without seeing by the eyes. By faith we may pursue the promise of life and the sanctification of godliness to escape the corruption of the evil desires and participate in the divine nature. Again Job defended for the 'righteousness' he insisted. He could only see what was near and was entangled in his self-righteousness. But he did not understand that nothing good lives in men. He would not be able to find God in his feeling. We ought to use faith as the foundation and be diligent to pursue step by step and add to goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness and finally to reach the peak of brotherly kindness and love to gain blessings upon blessings and joy upon joy without distress.

2.【Through trials become gold】10 Though Job could not find God in his feeling, he believed the way he took was before God. And he firmly believed when he was tested, he would come forth as gold without sin.

※【A rich welcome into God’s kingdom】10-11 Be all the more eager to make our calling and election sure and never fall so we will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of Christ. God's purpose to let Job suffer was to test him to come forth as gold.

**B. Value God’s words, be firmly established in the truth and wait for the Lord watchfully**

God’s words (Job 23:11-17) – Be strengthened (2 Pe 1:12-21)

1.【Value the Lord’s words】11-12 In Job's suffering he believed he did not swerve from God's Word and he followed God's footpath without abandoning His words. He said he treasured God's words more than his daily bread. (Jer 15:16)

※【Be firmly established in the truth】12-15 How Peter had made every effort to be a faithful servant of God! Before he died and was being poured, he refreshed and aroused the saints to be firmly established in the truth. They ought to remember always even after he had departed. Job was comforted in his test as he treasured God's words more than his daily bread. The environment might have changed and God's servant had passed away. But God's words never change, never depart and always are established.

2.【Do not understand God’s will and is terrified and in darkness】13-17 Though Job treasured God's words, he did not eat them thoroughly. He did not understand the meaning of suffering and God's will. Thus he thought God's will could not be changed and God's deeds were hard to grasp which made him terrified. His heart fainted and he was covered in the think darkness.

※【Pay attention to the word of the prophets and wait for the Lord watchfully】16-21 Peter was the eyewitnesses of the glory of Christ and he testified the beloved Son of God and His glorious coming was really true. It is the hope of the church and not from clever invented stories. He reminded the saints to pay attention to the words of the prophets and to prepare watchfully and wait for the coming of the Morning Star. (Rev 22:16) Finally he warned we should not explain by our own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from the Holy Spirit. Job only paid attention to the cleverly invented stories of his friends and did not treasure God's words above everything. He lost the faith and hope in the future. Job's heart fainted because he was unable to understand. Hardship forced him to come before God to see through men's words. When he had eye-witnessed God's glory and heard His whisper, then he had the faith and perseverance to wait for hardship to pass and glory would come.

**Ps 19 / Rev 11:8 Main theme: Die in the Lord’s death, be watchful to keep the Lord’s Word and will be greatly rewarded**

**-Keep watchfully / Great reward**

To die with the Lord on the cross and die completely to evil and the world, then we may obey the Word and glorify God and benefit men.

(1)【Ought to glorify God and benefit men】1-6 All creations declare and proclaim God's glory and the work of His hands. We should all the more serve, preach and glorify Him. If we cannot use our mouth to proclaim, we can use our actions to proclaim and spread widely to all the world. God will open a door for the message to those who obey His commands and love Him (Rev 3:7-8) so they may shine like the sun and give light in the world.

(2)【Be careful to keep the Lord’s words and be blameless】7-14 Consecrate by the blood and through the Word. Be redeemed to enter perfection so our thought and words are accepted by the Lord. Die completely to the world and to ourselves to become the precious instrument so all people may be blessed.

**Central point of the wheels: Pursue by faith, keep and proclaim the Word, die completely and be abundant**

Dear Lord, may You bestow me your precious faith, not by what I see with the eyes, be diligent to eat thoroughly the holy words, to keep and proclaim the Word and to receive You with a rich welcome!

**Job 24 / 2 Pe 2**

**Main theme: Be godly and escape the trial, be mastered by sin and disasters come soon**

**-Be punished / Be saved (do evil / be godly)**

Golden verses: Job 24:23, 2 Pe 2:1

A discussion on punishment and being saved – on one side it concerned Job fretted on the wicked and why God did not set times for judgment. On the other side it concerned Peter sharply pointed out the evil actions and endings of the false prophets and the false teachers. God would punish them without delay. This teaches us we ought to be strengthened and stand firm in the truth without being led astray or fret. Job was godly and suffered, thus when the time came he would be saved by God.

**A. Do not fret, the wicked will be punished and the righteous will be saved**

Punish the wicked (Job 24:1-12) – Be saved (2 Pe 2:1-11)

1.【Fret for the wicked】1-8 Job was fretful when he saw the poor were oppressed. Why did the Almighty not set times for judgment and let them look in vain for such days? How miserable! They were hungry and naked without a shelter. They suffered all the oppression.   
※【God will quickly punish the evil】1-6 Peter saw in the spirit that there would be false prophets and false teachers who secretly introduced false teachings to harm God's children so many would follow their adultery and made up stories. Their condemnation had long been hanging over them. God is the Sovereign Lord who reward the kind and punish the evil. When the angels sinned, God did not spare them. In the age of Noah and Lot, all the ungodly received their just punishment. to be the warning of the ages to come. Job only saw by the eyes and could not see God punished the wicked in His timing, so he was fretful and was jealous to the wicked. We ought to trust in the Lord and do good (Ps 37:1-3) and do not follow the invented stories. Love God with a pure heart and let God be your refuge. (Ps 73)

2.【Question God why He does not care】9-12 The wicked seized the fatherless and forced them to be slaves all their life. The naked shivered in the cold night to tread the winepresses and yet suffered thirst. Their groan could not reach upward. Job saw this unequal situation and questioned God why did He not care about the folly of the wicked.

※【The Lord will save the godly】7-11 Compared to the people of the two cities of Sodom, Lot was considered righteous. He was distressed by the adulterous and thus was saved by God. God would all the more rescue the godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the judgment. Job suffered for righteousness. All he had to do was to wait in a godly manner. The Almighty God would rescue him. The result of the wicked would be like the cities of Sodom being judged and fall. So why be fretful!

**B. Walk in the light, do not be tempted, and escape the corruption to avoid being harmed**

Do evil (Job 24:13-25) – The ending (2 Pe 2:12-22)

1.【Do all sorts of evil】13-17 The wicked rebelled against the light and ran around transversely. They killed the poor and committed adultery. They stole and did all sorts of evil. They called evil good and put darkness for light. They reversed the right from wrong. (Isa 5:20)

※【Used to do evil】12-16 The false prophets were greedy and indulged in their lust. They were experts in doing evil and were like beasts. They seduced the unstable. They acted wickedly and would receive the wages of wickedness like Balaam who left the straight way. Even a beast without speech spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness. They turned their back to the light and secretly did evil and became an accursed brood. We ought however, to abandon the dark and come to the light to be children of light to produce the fruit of goodness, righteousness and truth. (Eph 5:8-9)

2.【The wicked is exalted only for a moment】18-25 Job declared though the wicked prospered, they were only foam on the surface of the water. They would be cursed and not be remembered. They were exalted and then they were gone and finally destroyed. Job wanted to prove his view which should not be reduced to nothing. He still insisted he was right.

※【Purposely be wayward and the ending is miserable】17-22 The false teachers spoke empty boastful words like a spring without water and emitted poison and like mists driven by a storm creating confusion to the truth of the Lord. Blackest darkness was reserved for them. They used lust to entice people who were just escaping from those who lived in error and made men to be slaves of depravity. They departed from the truth and sinned purposely. They were capricious. The fury of the wicked was also like the foam on the surface of the water. They had to face the final result. Therefore there is no need to be fretful or be induced. Job only needed to by godly to keep the Word and wait for the Lord who judges righteously and defend for all the distressed. The wicked could not change their character like a dog and a sow. Only the words of God are established forever. The words of Job were also empty.

**Ps 20 / Rev 11:9 Main theme: Be afflicted for the Word, when the time comes the Lord will save and exalt**

**-Salvation / In distress**

Blessed is he who is afflicted for righteousness for when the time comes he will see God’s glory.

(1)【Cry out to God in distress】1-3 Do not complain when you are in distress. Be humble and seek to trust God, then God will answer, exalt, help and support. He will remember all your sacrifices and make all your plans succeed.

(2)【Trust in the Lord to obey the Word and do good】4-8 Do not trust in chariots and horses. Trust only in the Lord and obey His Word like David who overcame evil with good. He obeyed the Word and loved his enemy. God would accomplish all he asked. He would triumph due to God's salvation. The enemies fell and he was exalted.

(3)【Intercede for others】9 He experienced salvation personally and wished others to be favored too.

**Central point of the wheels: Be godly and keep the Word, suffer for righteousness, pray and be saved**

Dear Lord, may You let me be godly to keep the Word, do not fret, do not be led astray by the false teaching, be saved by You and triumph by You!

**Job 25 / 2 Pe 3**

**Main theme: Guard against the fallacy, believe in the faith firmly and be sanctified by grace**

**-Convict / Be patient**

Golden verses: Job 25:2-3, 2 Pe 3:8

A discussion on conviction and patience – on one side it concerned Bildad refuted Job’s view point that God was not righteous. He stressed on God’s righteousness and awe and men’s filth and impurity. He spoke of his fallacy that no one can be justified before God. On the other side it concerned the encouragement of love from Peter. He stated clearly the promise of the Lord’s coming again, exhibiting God’s patience on men. He does not want anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. We ought to pay attention to the words of the prophet, be holy and godly to guard against the heresy and fallacy, to grab to save the souls and be ready for the Lord’s coming.

**A. Guard against the fallacy, be holy and godly, and be zealous to save men**

Debate (Job 25:1-4) – Guard against (2 Pe 3:1-12)

1.【Talk volubly on fallacy and be opinionated】1-2 Bildad was the son of strife. He had high talk and thought himself was right. He did not have any love and refuted Job. He only stressed on God had the dominion and was awesome. He established order in the heights of heaven. How would man discuss with God! This was no benefit to the suffering Job.

※【Be watchful to guard against heresy and fallacy】1-6 Peter the apostle was full of God’s love. He reminded the saints and stimulated them to remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by the Lord. The most important was to be watchful for the heresies in the last days of the Lord’s coming. Those scoffers would follow their own evil desires to nullify the Lord’s coming. They thought everything would go on as it had since the beginning of creation. Bildad’s understanding was superficial. He overemphasized his talk. He also followed his own desires to speak wantonly. How could this represent the truth? We ought to remember the Lord’s words firmly and to distinguish the authenticity without quarreling or be led astray. We ought to take the Lord’s Word as the truth and the standard. (Isa 8:20)

2.【Do not listen to the fallacy】3-4 Bildad said God had unlimited heavenly forces. Upon whom did His light not rise? God was holy and righteous. How then could a man be righteous before God? How could one born of woman be pure? Abraham was justified before God and became the father of many nations and the father of faith, so whoever believed in Christ would receive the light and be cleansed to be justified. (Ro 10:4)

※【Go quickly to save men】7-12 Peter clearly proclaimed the promise of the Lord’s coming and the truth of redemption. Due to the deliverance of Christ, not only would the impure sinners may be justified by faith, He also promised to come again to receive us to enjoy the eternal glory. Until now the Lord has been patient with the sinners and us. Therefore we should not listen to the false talk. Since we are redeemed, we ought to be holy and godly and to consider God’s heart to forgive the sinners. He does not want anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance! Thus we ought to save men quickly without delay and look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. The heaven and earth which are filled with sins would be destroyed by fire. The ungodly would be judged. We who are justified by faith will not be condemned. We have exited death and entered life.

**B. Do not be led astray, do not be hopeless and be diligent to pursue in the growth of knowledge**

Ignorant (Job 25:5-6) – Grow in knowledge (2 Pe 3:13-18)

1.【How can man who is like a worm and a maggot be pure】5-6 The fallacy of Bildad was if even the moon was not bright and the stars were not pure in His eyes, how much less a son of man, who was but a maggot and a worm! He was filthy and unclean!

※【Be redeemed and cleansed to enter a new heaven and a new earth】13-15 Though man is but a maggot and a worm, despicable, filthy and small, due to Christ’s redemption on the cross, we may not only be justified by faith, we also gain the honor as a prince. (Ps 113:7-8; Rev 5:9-10) If we bear the mind of the Lord to lead many to righteousness, we will shine like the stars (Dan 12:3) and wait for the new heaven and the new earth, we will dwell with the Lord forever. Bildad was short-sighted, one-sided and could only see the old heaven and earth. All creations were subjected to frustration, by ourselves we could not be liberated from its bondage to decay.

2.【Be convicted no matter what】5-6 On one side Bildad stressed the power and holiness of God and on the other side he pointed out men's lowliness and filthiness. How could they challenge God? Therefore Job ought to be judged and convicted before God. Bildad did not have any knowledge of God's salvation. He was absolutely wrong and thus led Job to despair as if he would never be cleansed and forever be condemned.

※【Pursue for the grow in knowledge】15-18 At the end Peter recommended the book written by Paul the apostle on the wisdom of God. Though some part might be hard to understand, we should not distort its meaning to their own destruction. (2 Ti 2:15; Rev 22:18-19) He also reminded the saints to be on guard lest they might be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from their secure position. The error of Bildad also led Job into suffering and despair. Let our friends judge us, but God's grace replaces the law and justification has replaced condemnation! We ought to be diligent to pursue and advance in grace and knowledge and not be shaken by error and be trapped in perplexity.

**Ps 21 / Rev 11:10 Main theme: Worldly pleasure will turn to bitterness;**

**trust in the Lord and gain eternal blessings and true happiness**

**-True happiness / Worldly pleasure**

The joy in evil of the world will turn to misery in an instant.

(1)【Believe in the Lord and have eternal blessings】1-6 How great is God's power manifested on those who believe in Him! They will gain His promised rich blessings of eternity. They will experience the perfect salvation and have the abundant blessings promised to Abraham. All nations on earth will be blessed due to his offspring. His descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore, (Gen 22:17-18) and be able to serve before the Lord.

(2)【Trust in God to destroy the enemies】7-13 Be able to destroy all the enemies and their descendants by the Lord, then we will be able to destroy the enemies' plan and exalt the Lord as most high and most holy and to lead all men to gain the joy of salvation.

**Central point of the wheels: Be holy and godly, be zealous to save men and enjoy the eternal blessings**

Dear Lord, may You let me not be led astray, be holy and godly, to grab to save sinners and put hope in the coming of a new heaven and a new earth!

**Job 26 / 1 Jn 1**

**Main theme: God is light, confess and have fellowship with God, proclaim the Word and benefit men**

**-Proclaim the knowledge / Proclaim life**

Golden verses: Job 26:14, 1 Jn 1:9-10

A discussion on proclaiming the knowledge and proclaiming life – on one side it concerned the debate of the three friends of Job could not bring him to submission. Job was unconvinced and in the following six chapters Job refuted them. Bildad’s statement was only the knowledge of the mind without life. It could not give any help to Job. On the other side it concerned John in his old age proclaimed the Word of life and the way to have fellowship with God. He shared with others the abundant life in Christ and proclaimed his personal experience on the Word of life. After Job had been bitterly refined, he would proclaim the life and help others with love.

**A. Through suffering proclaim life, have fellowship in the light and help men**

Knowledge (Job 26:1-4) – Life (1 Jn 1:1-4)

1.【Proclaim knowledge does not help others】1-4 Job replied Bildad ironically and pointed out how he had helped and saved the powerless and feeble! Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Job gained nothing from his friend. This was to let him see through the words of men and their love but to look up wholeheartedly to God's help!

※【Proclaim life and bring help to others】1-4 John let that which was from the beginning, the eternal life, which he had seen with his eyes and touched with his hands be proclaimed to the children of God so men might gain the help of the life and be filled with complete joy. Bildad did not have the experience in life and he was just eager to make a big talk which was helpless to anyone. In Job's great distress, he was not comforted but became more miserable.

2.【How can one teaches if he does not first take lesson】1-4 Job questioned Bildad who displayed great insight was but empty and unhelpful. What advice he had offered to one without wisdom. If we do not first take lesson humbly before God, how can we advise others. (Isa 50:4-5) May the Spirit of the truth lead us into every truth, then we may use words of wisdom to sustain the weary.

※【Have fellowship with God and have fellowship with one another】1-4 Christ is our life. We ought to first have fellowship with the Father and the Son Jesus Christ to gain the abundant life, then we may proclaim to the church what we have seen and heard and have fellowship with one another. Bildad did not first take his lesson, how could he teach others? The three friends of Job started severe argument with Job. They attacked one another and finally became silent and let Job argued with himself. Job did not have fellowship with God in his distress but only argued with others. He became more and more miserable.

**B. Walk in the light, do not be self-deceiving, being quaked and understand God’s words**

Forsake the darkness (Job 26:5-14) – Come to the light (1 Jn 1:5-10)

1.【The dead are in deep anguish waiting for the judgment】5-6 Job declared God's power had reached the grave. Those beneath the waters were in deep anguish and waited for the final judgment. Death and Hades could not escape. They were finally thrown into the lake of fire. (Rev 20:11-15)

※【Forsake the darkness, come to the light and gain life before the Lord】5 God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. John proclaimed to men what he had heard from God so they might turn from darkness and gain the light of life to avoid the final judgment and everlasting destruction. (Heb 9:27) Therefore we ought to lead others from darkness and bring them into the kingdom of light of the Son. (Col 1:12-13)

2.【Praise God for His wonderful creations】7-10 Job's knowledge on the universe was better than his three friends. He praised the wonderful deed of the Creator who suspended the earth over nothing. The northern skies were where He stayed. (Ps 48:1-2) He made the light and rain worked for the good of men and a boundary for water above and below and between light and darkness.

※【Experience God’s great love of redemption】6-7 God is light. We ought to have fellowship with God in the light. If we claim to have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. God is in the light and we also walk in the light and have fellowship with one another and be cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Job praised the wonders of God and he also had to experience God's great love of redemption in his suffering and have fellowship with God in the light just like entering to His throne and be face to face with Him. Though there was darkness on the outside, his spirit was full of light.

3.【Been quaked by God and understand thoroughly God’s words】11-14 Job acknowledged he could only declare the outer fringe of God's works and how faint the whisper he had heard of Him. He could not understand the thunder of His power. God wanted him to experience like the pillars of the heavens quake or like the serpent being pierced and finally subdue before God to hear His whisper, that he might acknowledge his insignificance and limitations and knew God by the ears.

※【Confess and be forgiven and the Word is in the heart】8-10 We ought to confess our sins and the righteous and faithful God will forgive and purify our sins. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Job suffered not because of his sins but to refine his self-righteousness. Therefore if he had not been shaken and pierced, he would not be deeply contrite to understand his old self was like the quick serpent whom no one could subdue. Through miserable deprivation, Job then understood he was the workmanship of God. (Isa 64:8; Eph 2:10) In the end God still ornamented him to completely manifest God Himself, full of His Word and love in his heart.

**Ps 22 / Rev 11:11 Main theme: Bear the suffering of the cross, obey the will till the end and see the glory of resurrection**

**-Hear / Stand up**

When the time comes God shows the great power of resurrection and who dares not to fear Him?

(1)【Implore zealously day and night by faith】1-21 Do not fix your eyes on anything when severe distress is near. Do not be shaken due to men's words but trust in God wholeheartedly and pray fervently day and night. By faith, know that the Lord has granted for He will deliver me to overcome the bitterness of the cross.

(2)【Proclaim extensively the Lord’s great power and grace of resurrection】22-31 Experience the Lord hear my cry in my suffering. When the time comes, manifest the glory of His power of resurrection. Therefore we should exhort men to seek humbly without being discouraged. May all the peoples fear my God.

**Central point of the wheels: Endure the suffering, have fellowship with God, proclaim life and save men**

Dear Lord, may You let me have fellowship with You in the light, be humble to take lesson, to have fellowship with one another and lead men to forsake the darkness and come to the light.

**Job 27 / 1 Jn 2**

**Main theme: Do not be self-righteous, do not love the world, obey the ancient paths and dwell in the Lord**

**-Do not be self-righteous / Do not love the world**

Golden verses: Job 27:6-8, 1 Jn 2:16-17

A discussion on do not be self-righteous and do not love the world – on one side it concerned Job reiterated his innocence. He insisted on his righteousness and declared the ultimate fate of the wicked. He believed that the righteous God will reward the good and punish the evil. On the other side it concerned John discussed on the light and the darkness representing the truth and the evil. He encouraged the church to turn from evil and keep the Word, to dwell in the Lord and in the light. He reminded the believers not to love the world and be careful to guard against the temptation of the anti-Christ. He also reminded them to dwell in the Lord according to the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the only ‘Righteous One’. We ought to reject our self-righteousness and secular and hold on to the Lord’s Word!

**A. Do not be self-righteous, do not love the world, love your brothers and dwell in the light**

Treat the friend as an enemy (Job 27:1-12) – Love the brothers (1 Jn 2:1-15)

1.【Hold on to one’s righteousness and do not let go】1-6 Job thought God had denied his justice. He swore to reiterate he was without sin. He would maintain his righteousness and utter no deceit and never let go of it till he died. He declared he would never admit the words of his friends were in the right and strongly confirmed he suffered innocently.

※【Trust in the advocate to be the atoning sacrifice】1-6 John exhorted the children not to sin. But if anybody does sin, there is a mediator Jesus Christ to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Job insisted he was able to maintain his righteousness till death and not be justified by God. He forgot he had once groaned before the advocate on high. (Job 16:19) There was only one mediator, the Righteous One - Jesus, (1 Ti 2:5) and not only for our sins but also for the sins of the whole world. The Word of the Lord is flawless. Anyone obeys His word is truly made complete in him. Job dwelled in his old self and was not complete in love. Only by trusting in the mediator, we may enter perfection.

2.【Treat his friend as an enemy】7-11 The three friends of Job attacked and accused him indiscriminately. Thus he was extremely angry and treated them as enemies like the wicked. Thus distress will come upon the godless without hope; even God will not hear them.

※【To hate his brother is in the darkness】7-14 Since the beginning we had a command, that was the law of love. (Ro 13:8-10) Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness. Job was unable to bear the attack of his friends and bore a grudge on them. He took them as enemies without love. He was like the blind falling into darkness. John was full of God's love. He obeyed His command and cared about others' spirit. He exhorted them to keep the Word to be strong and to overcome. Faced with the present suffering, Job was unable to keep the Lord's command. He took his friends as enemies. He also dwelled in darkness.

3.【Do not seek meaningless talk】12 Job pointed out that his friends had seen the deed of God. Then why was this meaningless talk?

※【Do not love the world】15 Do not love the world or anything in the world like the flowers and the grass which wither in an instant and turn to nothing. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (Mt 6:24-25) Job rebuked his friends had turned to meaningless. In fact he himself had also fallen into meaningless argument. We ought to pursue things above the sun and thirst for the Lord's words and to love Him above everything.

**B. Die to the world, die to oneself, dwell in the Lord and do not be led astray**

Accumulate wealth (Job 27:13-23) – Obey the Word (1 Jn 2:16-29)

1.【The wicked has his reward and all his wealth and treasure will be gone】13-17 Job spoke of the fate of the wicked. Not only he received his retribution, his descendants would also be affected. Though he heaped up his wealth, finally it turned to nothing but would be left to the innocent to enjoy. How empty this is under the sun!

※【Keep the Word, obey the will and remain forever】16-27 The things of the world like the cravings, the lust of the eyes and the boasting of what one has and does are our three inner enemies and need to overcome by the Word of the Lord. We also need to guard against the anti-Christ by the anointing of the Holy Spirit to hold on to the truth and to identify the wrong. They are deceitful and belong to the devil. They turn against the truth. (Jn 8:44; 1 Jn 4:1-6) They will be treated like the wicked. Everything on the earth will pass away except those who obey the will of God will last forever. The earthly treasures will turn to nothing except the words of the Lord will be our everlasting possession which is more precious than thousands of pieces of silver and gold! (Ps 119:72, 110) God wanted Job to go through hardship and die completely to the world. Then he might keep and guard the Word and love God above everything.

2.【The wicked can hardly escape God’s hands】18-23 Again Job spoke of the house built by the wicked. His foundation was built on the sand like a moth's cocoon and a hut made by a watchman which could not withstand the attack of a tempest and the pouring rain. The wicked would be overtaken by the terrors of a flood. The east wind would snatch him away. God would hurl against him without mercy. The wicked could hardly escape from the hands of God.

※【Obey the Lord’s Word and dwell in Him】24-29 John exhorted us to remain in our heart the ancient path which we had heard from the beginning. Then we would remain in the Son and in the Father. Only by building the house on the Rock, then it would never shake. But the wicked would stumble on it. (1 Pe 2:7-8) We also have the anointing of the Holy Spirit who teaches us in everything. We continue in Him and be confident and unashamed to see the Lord. The Lord is righteous and whoever is born of Him will act righteously. The Word of the Lord is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to dividing the joints and marrow. It judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. If we always dwell in the Lord, we will be guarded forever. The wicked rejects the Lord's Word. He will be overtaken and cannot escape the righteous judgment of God!

**Ps 23 / Rev 11:12 Main theme: Listen to the Lord’s voice persistently, dwell in Him forever and the cup of blessing overflows**

**-Blessings overflow / The heavenly voice**

The two prophets heard completely the voice from the heaven till the end. They martyred for the Lord. When the time came they rose up and gained the better resurrection and the deeds would follow them.

(1)【Listen to the good shepherd completely】1-5 The Lord is the good Shepherd. He laid down His life for the flock. We ought to trust and hear completely the voice of the Father God and His beloved Son. (the Bible, the heavenly sound) Then we shall not be in want, have rest and be restored to walk the righteous path. Though we may pass through the dark, we have the comfort and protection of the Lord, so the enemies will be ashamed. Thus those who hear completely the voice of the Lord will have overflowing cups like Joseph and Paul. All people and generations are blessed due to them.

(2)【Dwell in the Lord forever】6 Not only we want to have the overflowing blessings, but also the everlasting overflowing blessings. Then we must listen to the Lord's words till the end and not be like Josiah and Solomon. They were like a fly in the ointment - a warning to us.

**Central point of the wheels: Keep the Word and dwell in the Lord forever, listen persistently and awake to go up.**

Dear Lord, may You let me reject all my self-righteousness, to reject the secular, to dwell in the light, to keep your Word and dwell in You forever!

**Job 28 / 1 Jn 3**

**Main theme: Fear God and be away from evil, consecrate and love men will dwell in the Lord**

**-Gain wisdom / Seek God’s love**

Golden verses: Job 28:23, 28, 1 Jn 3:24

A discussion on gaining wisdom and seeking God’s love – on one side was Job’s beautiful praise song of wisdom. He discussed that men could use all kinds of technology to seek the earthly treasure but could not seek wisdom. The value of wisdom was beyond comparison. Only God is where wisdom lies. On the other side it concerned John praised the love of the Father God which could not be found anywhere except through His beloved Son. So we might seek to gain the command of loving one another in His Word. This teaches us to obey the Lord’s command and love one another, to fear God, be away from evil and gain the wisdom and understanding of God to love men and save men!

**A. Understand the love of the Father deeply and seek wisdom**

Seek wisdom (Job 28:1-14) – Seek love (1 Jn 3:1-12)

1.【Seek treasure by wisdom】1-11 How great wisdom and intelligence has God given to men which is far above all the animals to be able to mine and refine the gold, silver and precious gems. They dig deep into the mine and obtain the precious stones and nuggets of gold and dangle to assault the flinty rock. They tunnel through the rock and dam up the sources of rivers and bring hidden things to light.

※【The Father’s unfailing love is more precious than the treasure】1-10 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! This love surpasses all gold, silver and precious gems and is not gained by ourselves but through Christ who gives us for free. We ought to cleanse ourselves and act righteously. When the Lord appears, we shall be like Him. Therefore do not sin and do not be led astray so we may gain God's love and His Word far better than all the treasure on the earth! This shows we are God's children and not the devil's children.

2.【Where can we find wisdom and understanding】12-24 Though men can mine the precious stones and possess all worldly wisdom and wealth, they cannot gain the wisdom and understanding of God. Job satirized his friend as wise, but he did not know where he could find wisdom and understanding. Man cannot comprehend its worth and it cannot be found in the deep or in the sea. Only God is the source of wisdom. He knows where does wisdom come from. (Jas 3:17-18)

※【To obey to love one another is true wisdom】11-12 The command to love one another does not come from men but was given by the Lord who laid down His life for us. We must obey without condition. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. (Jn 13:34-35) There is nowhere we can find wisdom and understanding except from God. God is love. If we obey the Lord's command and love one another, this is wisdom and surpasses all the treasures. (Pro 8:10-11) Cain was our warning. He rejected God's way of love and killed his brother. He belonged to the wicked. As a result he became wayward and harmed himself. He was driven away by God and forever hidden from His presence. (Gen 4:1-15) Therefore we ought to seek God's wisdom and understanding like searching for hidden treasures. We also need to desire the greatest gift and the most excellent way - that is the love of God!

**B. Fear God and be away from evil, deny yourself to love men and gain true wisdom**

Fear God (Job 28:15-28) – Love one another (1 Jn 3:13-24)

1.【The value of wisdom cannot be compared】15-19 The value of wisdom cannot be compared. It cannot be bought with the finest gold, silver or precious gems. The value of wisdom is more precious than rubies. (Pro 3:13-15; 8:10-11) God is wisdom. He calls aloud to the simple to leave their simple ways and turn to Him to walk a bright way. (Pro 1:20-23; 9:1-6)

※【The Lord’s great love of laying down His life for us surpasses everything】13-16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. This love surpasses everything. Just like wisdom, its value cannot be compared. The message of the cross is foolishness to men. But it is God's wisdom (1 Co 1:18-25) and God's love! If one were to give all the wealth of his house for love, it would be utterly scorned. (SS 8:7) We too ought to pursue love and lay down our lives for our brothers. This is because if anyone who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer. Job had experienced all kinds of hardship. His life was broken up and had passed from death to life. Then he would love his brothers and his friends. He would intercede for them, full of God's wisdom and love.

2.【Fear God and be away from evil is wisdom and understanding】20-28 Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? It cannot be given by men but only God can manifest to men where it dwells. It is not only through the creations that exhibit His wisdom, He made a path for the wind, rain and thunderstorm. He also showed us a path of wisdom to obey, to fear God and shun evil. This is also a way of life which Joseph and Daniel had experienced. How they had feared God and hated evil. They loved God and loved men. Thus they had the wisdom to understand vision and dreams and showed aptitude on God's mystery. (Pro 9:10; Ps 111:10)

※【Truly love one another and dwell in the Lord forever】17-24 To love one another is not just a lip service but in our action. As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people and do not block away your pity. On one side we see that fearing the Lord and shunning evil will gain wisdom. On the other side we see loving one another honestly dwells in the Lord. The Lord's message is to love one another, then we have confidence before God and we will receive from Him anything we ask. Therefore we ought to fear God and shun evil, love one another and we will gain the wisdom from above and forever dwell in the Lord. The truth and the Holy Spirit will be our witness like John.

**Ps 24 / Rev 11:13 Main theme: The earth quaked and the city collapsed, do not lift up his soul to an idol, and get ready to welcome the Lord**

**-The earth quakes / Ascend the hill**

(1)【The earth quaked severely】1-2 God made the earth and the world. May all the earth fear and obey the Lord's Word and gain the eternal blessings. But men are rebellious and profane God. Thus the earth quakes and the towns are demolished so men will come back to their senses.

(2)【We ought to cleanse ourselves and seek the Lord】3-6 We ought to confess and repent with clean hands and a pure heart. Then we may ascend to the peak of the spiritual mountain to see the Lord's face. Whoever seeks the Lord will be blessed by Him so he will be justified. Do not be the wife of Lot who stayed at the bottom of the mountain. Trouble came and she was ashamed.

(3)【Lead all people to welcome the Lord’s coming】7-10 Lead all peoples to be watchful to wait for the Lord's coming. Overcome all inner and outer enemies by the Lord, accomplish all the work entrusted to us by the Lord Almighty, then we will be caught up when He comes and reign together with Him.

**Central point of wheels: Gain wisdom, keep the Word of love, be quaked and consecrate to welcome the Lord**

Dear Lord, may You bestow me wisdom and love which surpass all treasures, to fear God, be far from evil, have clean hands and a clear heart to see You!

**Job 29 / 1 Jn 4**

**Main theme: Not to seek for self-glory, need to distinguish the spirits, love is made complete**

**-Nostalgia / In depth (love oneself / love one another)**

Golden verses: Job 29:2-4, 1 Jn 4:18

A discussion on nostalgia and in depth – on one side it concerned Job recollected and lingered on the well-being, honor and the good life of the old days which he felt hard to forget. On the other side it concerned John encouraged us to pursue in depth in life and in the truth, to test the spirits and not be led astray by the false teachings. Further he encouraged us to love one another deeply from the heart because God is love. This teaches us not to boast of the past, or to grieve of the reality but to forget what is behind and press toward what is ahead to make every effort to pursue the abundance of life and the growth in the faith!

**A. Do not be nostalgic, advance to discern and love one another**

Boast (Job 29:1-12) – Discern (1 Jn 4:1-10)

1.【Recollect the past and linger endlessly】1-6 Job was unhappy with his miserable reality and recollected his good old days. At that time, God was close to him and had intimate friendship with him. God gave him wealth, light and happiness. His children were around him and the cream and oil poured like streams. He was nostalgic over these.

※【Advance in depth in the spirit and be able to distinguish the spirits】1-6 John had an abundant life. He led God's children away from superficiality and advanced to be able to identify all sorts of spirits to guard against the temptation of the false prophet. Do not easily believe them and be able to test them. Every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus was the Word made flesh is the spirit of anti-Christ and the spirit of falsehood. They belong to the world and the worldly people listen to them. Job ought to have advanced in life, but his spirit fell back. He recalled his past good days and was unable to face the practical situation to seek and understand God more. Hardship forced him to take root in his life to gain abundance and not be led astray by dSatan to fall into his trap.

2.【Be self-centered and boast of the past events】7-12 Job recollected his past and felt happy. He recalled his past position and honor, righteousness and uprightness and how he had judged the wrong. He boasted of the chief men and the nobles were refrained from speaking. They all were subdued under him. Job was indulged in himself and self-centered. He did not take God as the center.

※【The Lord is the example to love one another】7-10 God is love. He sent His only Son to the world who humbled and denied Himself. He hid silently and became our atoning sacrifice. He manifested God's love in the world! If we love one another, we can also manifest God's love. Job recalled the past and became nostalgic. He completely manifested himself. His love was not from God but from himself only. This had to be destroyed and refine by God, then he might take God as the center and live out the actual love.

**B. Do not boast of the past, love is made complete**

Self-boasting (Job 29:13-25) – Seek love (1 Jn 4:11-21)

1.【Boast of the good acts and refute the friends】13-18 Subconsciously Job boasted of himself how he gave generously, he was just and righteous and he cared for the helpless to refute his friends' conviction to prove his kindness.

※【In one heart with the Lord and be complete in love】11-15 Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. We know that we live in God and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. In this way we unite with the Lord and love is complete among us. Job did not unite with God and he fell back in his life. He was apart from God. Thus he was boastful about himself. How then could he be complete. Job only manifested himself while John manifested God completely.

2.【Be boastful and brag】19-25 Job was full of praise for what he did in the past. He relished on men's honor and that his glory remained fresh. Men listened to his counsel. For these he boasted and commended himself.

※【Nothing to boast of】16-21 We love because God first loved us. Whoever lives in love lives in God. We love God and love men. There is nothing to boast. It is only because God puts His love in us so we may be confident on the day of judgment. There is no fear in love. Job was full of terror toward God and his practical encounter of hardship. If anyone says he loves God, yet hates his brother, he is a liar like the friends of Job. Now Job took his friends as enemies. He loved himself and pitied himself. What had he to boast? Job showed off himself and was full of his old self. But John was full of God's love.

**Ps 25 / Rev 11:14 Main theme: The earth is woe after woe; seek and obey the Word and gain the inheritance**

**-Unfailing love / Woe**

There are sufferings on the earth. Only by believing the Lord, obeying His Word and dwelling in Him will there be peace.

(1)【Plead to triumph and not be ashamed】1-3 We can overcome our inner and outer enemies without shame only by praying, lifting up ourselves to God and trusting in Him.

(2)【Plead to understand and obey the Word】4-5 Only by overcoming and obeying the Word, then we may dwell in the Lord and not be endangered by sin and trouble.

(3)【Put hope in the Lord’s mercy and unfailing love】6-14 If we humble and lift up to the Lord's compassion so all our sins will be forgiven, then we may understand to obey the Lord's covenant and decrees.

(4)【Always pour out your heart to the Lord】15-19 Pray continuously as our enemies are numerous. May God save me from the snare and traps.

(5)【Plead the Lord to protect and redeem all people】20-22 The Lord does wonder for those who take refuge in Him. May He redeem His children from all their troubles.

**Central point of the wheels: Confess and obey the Word, love is made complete to avoid troubles and be protected**

Dear Lord, may You let me be refined, do not seek exaggeration, to pursue to be complete in love, be in depth in the spirit and discern everything.

**Job 30 / 1 Jn 5**

**Main theme: Do not be sad and terrified, be away from sin and love your enemy, dwell in the Lord and rest**

**-Refine bitterly / Overcome**

Golden verses: Job 30:24-25, 1 Jn 5:4

A discussion on refining bitterly and overcoming – on one side it concerned Job told of the misery of reality of himself. He was despised by men and attacked by God. He sighed and was self-pitiful. He lost his faith. On the other side it concerned John encouraged the church to obey God’s command to love God and love men. He also encouraged the church to keep the faith, to overcome the world and to break away from the evil one. The pursuit in life and faith are inseparable. The hindrance in spiritual fellowship is the world and the idols which we must overcome and be far from them. Job lost faith in his bitter refinement and thus was grabbed by misery and grief.

**A. Do not lament, overcome the world by faith and accept the testimony**

Lament (Job 30:1-15) – Faith and love (1 Jn 5:1-10)

1.【Lament for being mocked】1-8 On one side Job recollected the honor of his past days and on the other side he appealed for his hardship of date. When he compared the past with the present, he had all sorts of emotion welled up in his mind. Even the lowly young men whose father whom Job had disdained mocked him. They were penniless, and down and out. They were utterly hungry and not choosy about their food. They were driven out as wanderers. Job had fallen into such misery and being mocked by people. He lost his faith and his days wore on like years.

※【Learn faith and love】1-3 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. All the law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments to love God and to love men. (Mt 22:37-40) Therefore, we ought to bear faith and love, then it would not hard to keep the Word. In Job's distress, he did not have the compassion from his friends. Instead he was mocked by everyone. This was to make him learn faith and love, and be willing to suffer humbly, to keep the Lord's Word and not to disdain the lowly. How much teasing and mockery had Jesus suffered for us. He was tempted in everything in order to help those who are being tempted. (Heb 2:18)

2.【Lament the welfare is all gone】9-15 Many lowborn men hit Job when he was down. They disdained and abused him. Thus terror overwhelmed him and he could not endure. He lamented the dignity and safety of his old days vanished like a cloud and was no more to be found.

※【By faith overcomes the world】4-10 The Lord promises everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Further, there are the witnesses of the water, the blood and the Holy Spirit. Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God had made Him out to be a liar. The greatest need of Job was faith. If he trusted in God, he would have testimony, not only to overcome the environment and even himself. Though he suffered much hardship, God's love and faithfulness never departed from him; let his dignity and safety be lost. Since the water, the blood and the Holy Spirit were the testimony of Christ, They are also a magic weapon of our victory. (Jn 15:26; 19:34) By the faith from God and the endurance on all the hardship, it had turned to double blessings for Job!

**B. Do not wail, shun the idols, ask anything according to God’s will**

Do not be self-pitying (Job 30:16-31) – Ask according to the will (1 Jn 5:11-21)

1.【Complain God turns him on and does not listen to his plea】16-23 Not only was Job attacked by many people, the sores on his body increased misery to him. He had no peace day and night. He thought God had thrown him into the mud and rejected him like dust and ashes. Thus he complained God had turned on him and did not hear his call.

※【Ask according to God’s will and be granted】11-17 Since we have the eternity in our heart, we have life. This testifies we are the children of God. Only if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. Job was ensnared in his self misery, despair and hopelessness. He was full of complaint to God and men. He had to pour out himself and to understand he was lowly like the dust and not to complain anymore. He had to ask according to God's will and he would be heard.

2.【Lonely and hopeless, love oneself and be self-pitying】24-31 Job thought how he had cared for the poor. But now he had fallen into such distress and was unable to have any sympathy from men. He looked for light, then came darkness. It was as if God was unfair to him. He was alone without help. He became the companion of the jackals and owls. The sound of the harp and joy of the old days turned to wailing and mourning.. He was unable to understand the quiet love of God, and through the suffering he would die completely to everything. Then he would only take God as his friend and no longer be self-pity.

※【Dwell in the Lord forever and shun the idols】18-21 The whole world is under the control of the evil. Anyone born of God will dwell in Him and keep him safe from the evil one. The Son of God has come to destroy the devil's work. (1 Jn 3:8) He will give us understanding so we may dwell in Him who is true to protect us from the idols and love God wholeheartedly full of peace and joy. Job was full of self-pity. He longed for men's sympathy and help. This instead made him more miserable. We ought to take God as our intimate friend and dwell in Him. Then darkness will turn to light, wailing turn to dancing like the experience of Joseph. Thereafter he was able to save the distress of the world. Those who worship idols and are far from God. They are the companion of jackals and owls. They will wail and never be satisfied. Therefore we have to keep ourselves from idols.

**Ps 26 / Rev 11:15 Main theme: Lead a blameless life, the Lord reigns forever, proclaim extensively and repay the kindness**

**-Exalt the Lord / Be blameless**

When the time comes, the Lord will reign forever. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord. God’s children ought to do the following for the kingdom of the Lord:

(1)【Exalt the Lord as King and lead a blameless life】1-3 Let us go on to maturity in our mind and in our thoughts, in our actions and our behavior. Be blameless before God and walk in the truth in everything, then God will vindicate us.

(2)【Abhor the wicked and love good】4-6 Do not sit with the hypocrite or the wicked and serve God with clean hands and a pure heart.

(3)【Proclaim the Lord’s salvation extensively】7-12 Consecrate ourselves and set apart to be holy to be a precious instrument. Then we may proclaim the Lord's grace extensively and love His holy temple for the result of the wicked is fearful.

**Central point of the wheels: Be refined thoroughly and be blameless, overcome with faith and exalt the Lord as King**

Dear Lord, may You bestow me faith and love, to overcome the world, to exalt You as King, be faithful to intercede and dwell in You forever!

**Job 31 / 2 Jn**

**Main theme: Be righteous and merciful, with truth and love will gain great reward**

**-Righteousness and truth**

Golden verses: Job 31:5-7, 2 Jn 1:2, 8

A discussion on righteousness and truth – on one side it concerned Job reiterated his innocence. He continued to boast of his perfection and pleaded God to give a righteous judgment and to defend the wrong for his innocent suffering. On the other side it concerned John was full of the suffering witness of Christ. He encouraged the church which was under the assault of the heresy to hold on to the truth and to practise love. He encouraged them to love one another and to guard against the temptation of the heretic and the anti-Christ. He exhibited the love and care of a shepherd towards the flock.

**A. Do not boast of one’s righteousness; with truth, love and be brave to guard the Word**

Be righteous (Job 31:1-23) – Love one another (2 Jn:1-8)

1.【Keep the Word without swerving and nothing to boast of】1-12 Again Job declared that he suffered not because of sin. He believed the wrong doers would have disasters. God saw his way and counted his every step. He was confident he kept the Word without swerving. He even made a covenant with his eyes not to look lustfully at a girl and not be enticed by a woman (Mt 5:27-28) because this was a serious wrong to be judged. (Gen 39:7-10) He maintained his justice and integrity and never walked in falsehood.

※【With truth and love, God is always present】1-4 John not only had the suffering witness of Christ, (Rev 1:9) he had truth and God's love in his heart. He wrote to the chosen church and loved them truthfully because they walked in the truth and had joy. Job feared God and shun evil. He kept the Word without swerving. But he did not understand he had to suffer innocently so that he would be filled with God's love (Ro 5:3-5) like Joseph. He experienced the hardship and became the blessings of the distressed of the world. If we pursue the truth and love, God's grace, compassion and peace will always be with us.

2.【Be righteous, merciful and do not be presumptuous】13-23 Job claimed he had been always just with his servants and treated the lonely with compassion. He swore that if he had acted wantonly, he would rather accept God's punishment.

※【Love one another and keep the Lord’s command】5-8 John exhorted the church to hold the command given to them from the beginning, that was to love one another. This is love: that we walk in obedience to the command. Job was able to act in justice and compassion when he was rich and in peace. Now that he encountered such great distress, he started to argue ruthlessly with his friends. How could this be love? God wanted to refine Job to be filled with love, then he might be able to always protect and be filled with God's mind to love those who were against him. John encouraged the church to be careful to guard against the deception of the anti-Christ. They did not acknowledge Jesus as coming in the flesh. Even Job dared not act wantonly due to the fear of God. These men were daredevil and would not be spared from disasters. Therefore we ought to be careful; on one side to pursue God's love and on the other side to guard against the deception of anti-Christ. Then we may be rewarded fully.

**B. Do not defend for oneself, do not be led astray and hold on to the truth**

Vindicate (Job 31:24-40) – Remind (2 Jn:9-13)

1.【Do not be enticed by wealth and all the manifestations of nature】24-32 Job said he never took wealth as his security and he was never enticed by the starry host because this was unfaithful and these were sins to be judged. He also said he was generous and helpful.

※【Do not be led astray or have any share in evil】9-11 John reminded the church to guard against the apostate who ran ahead in the teaching of Christ. They should not receive or welcome him lest they might share in his wicked work. We ought to be like Job to be jealous and hate wrong, and tremble in fear. Do not be enticed by wealth and spiritual idols. Be filled with God's mind of righteousness to hate what is wrong. We also need to learn from Paul to beat our body to overcome our inner and outer enemies. (1 Co 9:26-27; Php 2:12)

2.【Full of self-righteousness and be proudly rational】33-40 Job was full of confidence and showed himself as the righteous one to challenge God. He was proudly rational. On one side he refuted his friends' conviction of his sins. On the other side he vindicated himself he would not be like Adam who hid his guilt hypocritically. He was assured and brought the indictment before God and declared his case. He cried to God to defend him. If what he had said was untrue, let his land be cursed. The words of Job were ended.

※【Full of God’s love and reveal God’s love】12-13 John's heart was full of God's love. His letter displayed God's love. Job had finished his words of refutation. John encouraged the church and there were still words to be said. He hoped to visit them and talk with them face to face so that their joy might be complete. The three friends of Job did not have God's love and they could not persuade him. Finally God appeared personally with answers full of love. So Job was finally convinced and put his hand over his mouth. When he was ashamed, remorseful and accredited God was righteous, all sorrow turned to joy. God's love filled him.

**Ps 27 / Rev 11:16 Main theme: Seek and obey the Word, be dutiful and do not be afraid of the attack of the enemy**

**-Seek / Be dutiful**

(1)【Dwell in the Lord and do not be afraid of the enemy’s attack】1-6 The elders who humbly served the Lord dutifully and shepherd their flock were not afraid of any kind of attack from the enemies. They rested in the Lord. God would guard them, hide them and exalt them.

(2)【Seek and obey the Word will see God’s grace】7-14 Cry humbly and seek the Lord's face. Pray to understand and obey the Word. Wait courageously and firmly believe that we can be confident to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Central point of the wheels: Be humble to seek the truth and love, and dwell in the Lord forever**

Dear Lord, may You let me pursue truth and love, not to be enticed, be brave to guard the Word, dwell in You forever and fully gain your reward!

**Job 32 / 3 Jn**

**Main theme: Be angry by natural instinct is not beneficial; comfort and warn with love helps men**

**-Rebuke angrily / Help men**

Golden verses: Job 32:13, 3 Jn:4

A discussion on rebuking angrily and helping men – on one side it concerned the young Elihu saw the three friends of Job could not convince Job and closed their mouths. Thus he became angry and declared his view frankly and bluntly. On the other side it concerned the apostle John wrote to Gaius who zealously received his brothers. He encouraged him to continue to show hospitality to the strangers who were preachers. He also sharply pointed out the evil acts of Diotrephes who loved to be first. He slandered the apostles and refused to receive the brothers. This teaches us we ought not to go by natural instinct but help others to go forward with love and truth. Job in his distress was not able to receive the slightest help from his friends.

**A. Do not be angry, practice love and help others to go forward**

Natural instinct (Job 32:1-10) – Love (3 Jn 1:1-8)

1.【Rebuke angrily by natural instinct】1-5 In the arguments between the three friends and Job, they each held their own opinion and could not persuade Job. Thus Elihu intervened to speak. He was young, vigorous and self-righteous. He was angry with Job because he was also self-righteous. Elihu was also angry with the three friends because they condemned Job.

※【Encourage by love】1-2 John the elder was full of God's love. He wrote to Gaius, whom he loved in the truth. He blessed his body and soul which exhibited the fervent love and the meticulous care of John toward Gaius. By the flesh Elihu could not stop his anger. Even if there was truth, there was no love and could not convince others. Job was tortured in the body and soul. Faced with such angry rebuke, it did not bring any comfort to him. The anger of Elihu did not bring about the righteous life that God desired. (Jas 1:19-20)

2.【Know that God is righteous】2 The crux of Job was he justified himself rather than God. He used all sorts of argument to support his self-righteousness. He did not understand only God was righteous. "There is no one righteous, not even one" on earth. (Ps 14:1-3; Ro 3:10) He also did not understand men's righteous acts were like filthy rags. (Isa 64:6) Men are sinful at birth, sinful from the time they are conceived.

※【Continue to walk in the truth】3-4 John had great joy when he saw Gaius was faithful to the truth and he continued to walk in the truth. He had no greater joy than to hear that the church also walked in the truth. As an elder, John was not only full of love, he was also full of the truth because the Lord is love and also the truth. God refined Job bitterly in order to let Job acknowledge that God's way was right and yes in everything. Then he might completely reject his self-righteousness and bear the truth and love like John.

3.【Teach others with wisdom】6-10 As Elihu was young, he was fearful and waited before he spoke. Without any regard he rebuked the friends of Job were old and ought to teach wisdom. He believed wisdom was given by God and the aged might not have wisdom or understand what was right. Thus they ought to listen to him.

※【Help others to go forward with love】5-8 John commended Gaius for his love and faithfulness in receiving the strangers. He had good testimony and John encouraged him all the more. These missionaries went out and worked for the sake of the Name. They received no help from the pagans. The church ought to receive and send them on their way and that was to work together for the truth. In Job's distress, not a friend received him with love or sent him on the way or to teach and encourage him with wisdom, so he might not go backward. The three friends claimed to be wise men and were pretentious. They all held different opinion but without truth and love. They were not beneficial to Job.

**B. Not by natural instinct, rebuke the evil acts severely and encourage to do good**

Rebuke severely (Job 32:11-22) – Encourage (3 Jn 1:9-15)

1.【Certainly cannot rebuke presumptuously and follow the sound to echo】11-14 Elihu listened attentively to the reasoning of the three friends. He saw that not one of them was able to convince Job or refute his words. He also affirmed Job had wisdom and men could not overcome him. Elihu said he would not agree to the friends and rebuke presumptuously.

※【Rebuke severely and mercilessly】9-10 As an apostle of Christ, John was full of spiritual power and insight. He severely rebuked Diotrephes unrelentingly who loved to be first. Not only that he refused to welcome the brothers, he gossiped maliciously about them. He stopped those who wanted to do so and put them out of the church. Though Elihu was in the flesh, he was not like the three friends who condemned Job in unison. He dared to voice his own opinion and would not agree to follow them to rebuke presumptuously. Job's suffering was out of the will of God and not due to his sins. We ought to accept and bear with love. How can we rebuke severely like treating the wicked?

2.【Full of intense emotion to witness himself】15-22 Elihu was full of passion. He could not wait any longer. He could not stop to speak out all his words. He straightforwardly spoke of the wrong of Job and his three friends. He testified what he said would not show partiality nor would he flatter any man.

※【Full of love and witness greatly】11-15 John encouraged Gaius to imitate what was good with God's love. He pointed out that Demetrius did good and was testified by everyone and even by the truth itself. John also testified this. Elihu was full of his words like new wineskins ready to burst so he might speak in a care free manner. Every word of John was to witness for the truth. Demetrius silently did what was good. They all had their testimony. Elihu did not take partiality. He testified himself. On one side was full of passion to refute Job. On the other side was full of God's love and peace was brought to everyone.

**Ps 28 / Rev 11:17 Main theme: Implore the forever living and Almighty God will have help and joy**

**-Cry out and trust in the Lord/The Lord takes action**

(1)【Cry out watchfully and turn from evil】1-5 Be watchful to plead and do not remain silent. Pray unceasingly (Isa 62:6-7) and do not allow malice to bind us so that God will remove us like the wicked and those who do evil.

(2)【Exalt the Lord as King and be blessed greatly】6-9 God is good to those who call on Him. My heart trusts in Him and I am helped. Pray and I will have the power to shun evil and do good, exalt the Lord as King and let all people be blessed.

**Central point of the wheels: Cry out and trust will be saved, help others to go forward and exalt the Lord as King**

Dear Lord, may You refine my flesh and natural instinct, to pursue the truth and love, to turn from evil and do good, and help others to go forward.

**Job 33 / Jude**

**Main theme: Do not argue, read the Scriptures and pray, save men and contend for the Word**

**-Exhort / Debate for the Word**

Golden verses: Job 33:15-18, Jude 1:20-21

A discussion on exhortation and guarding the Word – on one side it concerned Elihu rebuked Job’s insistence on his self-righteousness. Suffering is to edify men to be humble and take lesson, and we should not argue with God. On the other side it concerned Jude encouraged the saints to urge to contend for the faith. He pointed out the evil and dangerous ending of the wayward. He also declared how to build up oneself in the most holy faith and grab to save the sinners. Elihu was not symptomatic and could not let Job be built up in the faith.

**A. Be humble and take lesson, and be brave to guard the Word**

Take lesson (Job 33:1-18) – Guard the Word (Jude 1:1-13)

1.【Argue for self】1-12 Elihu exhorted Job to listen to his sincere exhortation and he would not alarm him. But he rebuked Job claimed himself was clean and free from guilt. Job thought that God had found fault with him and thus considered him an enemy and kept close watch on all his paths. Job was not right for God was greater than man.

※【Contend for the Word】1-4 Though Jude was the brother of Jesus, he was humble and called himself a servant of Jesus. He wrote to all who were called, and loved and kept to urge them to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Job did not understand the reason for his suffering and he did not understand the love of God. He made every effort to argue for his innocence and not for the truth. He also did not understand God gave men His compassion, peace and love at no cost and not by one's righteousness. Jude reminded the saints to guard against those who had secretly slipped in among them and pretended to be godly. Instead they were indulging and ungrateful. Elihu only rebuked Job as unreasonable, but he did not lead him to value God's holy word and not to argue for himself but for the truth.

2.【Ought to be humble to take lesson】13-18 Elihu rebuked Job why he complained to God. He was not silent and He would use dream and vision to speak in their ears to warm them from pride lest they might perish by the sword. Job ought to humble to take the lesson and follow his plan no more.

※【Ought to take warning deeply】5-13 Jude listed the punishment of the ancient Israelites who were perfidious, the fallen angels, Sodom and the surrounding towns to be the warning for the present wayward people. They gave themselves to perversion, arrogance and waywardness, and received the retribution of eternal fire. They had taken the way of Cain, Balaam and Korah. These men were blemishes at the love feasts and waited for the judgment of the end day. Job did not turn back due to the argument of his friends. Finally he became humble and took lesson due to God's words. He was contrite and favored. But the wayward people of the past generations did not take their warning. They did not understand till death and would be destroyed. This teaches us we ought to deal with our flesh and old self from the origin so our spiritual ears may hear to be humble to take lesson and be sanctified by grace. (1 Co 1:30; 9:27)

**B. Be redeemed to witness God, be built up to grab to save men**

Witness God (Job 33:19-33) – Grab to save men (Jude 1:14-25)

1.【Be redeemed in distress to avoid death】19-24 A man may be chastened with pain in his bones, his flesh wastes away and his soul draws near to the pit. Through one out of a thousand angels, God tells a man what is right for him and be gracious to him and redeem him to spare him from death. This shows God has an abundant unfailing love!

※【Be ungodly will be judged】14-19 Enoch prophesied that when the Lord comes, He would judge all the ungodly and all the ungodly acts because they rejected God and refused His salvation. This shows God is a righteous, jealous and avenging God. We are redeemed by God to spare death and ought to be grateful and tremble to live our days in a godly manner. How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?

2.【Pray and be granted, and witness God】25-30 Men ought to give thanks and sing when they call in distress and are answered by God, or being healed and saved, or restored as in the days of their youth to be healthy and joyous or being joyful to see God's face. They ought to testify God's glory and repay God's grace. (Ps 116:12-13)

※【Read the Scriptures, pray and grab to save men】20-23 Finally Jude encouraged the saints to build themselves up in the most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. To keep themselves in God's love lest they might fall into the danger of the false brothers. They had to be merciful with a trembling heart to snatch the sinners from the heresy and sins to witness God and glorify God. Job had gone through hardship, then he would be able to edify others.

3.【Lead men to listen only to my teaching】31-33 Though the words of Elihu were better than Job's three friends, he also did not understand the real reason of Job's suffering. He still was unable to give the right medicine. He could only let Job hear his 'wise' lesson.

※【Lead men to see the Lord flawlessly and unblemished】24-25 God is able to keep us from falling, without fault and to stand before God with great joy; that is by the most holy faith. (Jn 17:17) Elihu led men hear only his 'lesson' and not to hear God's lesson. Men's word is straw. Only the Lord's word is grain, is life and a teaching of wisdom (Jer 23:28) so men's mind may be renewed with an abundant life. Then they can be without blemish to stand joyfully before God's glory. May all the glory and power be ascribed to the only God!

**Ps 29 / Rev 11:18 Main theme: The time for reward and punishment has come, obey the Word and consecrate, all glory be ascribed to God**

-**Consecrate / Reward and punish**

The Lord’s Day is near and the time for reward and punishment has come. We ought to consider the Lord’s mind to love God and save men.

(1)【Consecrate and glorify God】1-2 If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and exhibit God's glory and power. But we must ascribe all the glory and power to the Lord.

(2)【The effect of the Lord’s voice】3-9 How great is the power of the Lord's words to a humble receiver. It is like thunder that breaks, (like Paul had considered all things as rubbish due to the Lord and was willing to be broken up for Him.) It has the power like a wild ox that skips to trample over the wicked. The Lord's words shake the Desert of Kadesh and make straight in the wilderness. His words remove which do not belong to His thoughts and twigs and leaves. Only if we eat up His words thoroughly, then we may lead men to the Lord and declare His glory together.

(3)【God will give strength and peace】10-11 The path of the cross is bitter, but it leads to glory. The Lord will give strength and peace.

**Central point of the wheels: Only listen to the Lord’s voice, keep and guard the Word, save men and gain the reward**

Dear Lord, may You let me be humble to take lesson, to make every effort to contend for the Word, be holy and godly and to grab to save the sinners!

**Job 34 / Rev 1**

**Main theme: Do not speak our own words, witness the Lord’s Word and he who listens and acts is blessed**

**-Seek / Reveal**

Golden verses: Job 34:3-4, Rev 1:8

A discussion on seeking and revelation – on one side it concerned Elihu rebuked Job for his self-righteousness and that he did not understand God’s righteousness and sovereignty for only God judges, rewards and searches everything. Job would be tested till the end, and then he would be refined to understand God. On the other side it concerned John was suffering on the island of Patmos. He was revealed and shown what would soon take place. He wrote to the seven churches in Asia. Elihu could not convince Job with the knowledge of his mind; while John was inspired by the Spirit to write to comfort and encourage the suffering saints of the last phase.

**A. Do not be self-righteous, seek God, listen and act on the Word and gain the revelation**

Be self-righteous (Job 34:1-20) – Seek (Rev 1:1-11)

1.【Do not be self-righteous and seek God】1-9 Elihu started to speak of his point of discussion with Job and his three friends. He pinpointed that Job had sighed he was guiltless but was inflicted. He had not gained the support of God. He rebuked him as ungodly. How could he presumptuously say it profits a man nothing when he tries to please God? Thus he admonished Job to what was right and what was good. In fact, even Elihu had not understand this. In God it has always been "Yes". (2 Co 1:19) He is good. Therefore we ought to act justly and to love mercy and walk humbly with God. (Mic 6:8)

※【Gain the revelation in distress】1-2 John was banished on the island of Patmos because of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus. In his suffering, he was given the revelation of Jesus Christ and shown what had to soon take place. So he wrote all this down. Elihu did not have the experience of suffering. He only had the knowledge in the head and did not see anything in the spirit. How could he be beneficial to Job? Job suffered without guilt. He had a share in God's kingdom, suffering and patient endurance. Only if he would come before God, then he would be able to see.

2.【Discuss God’s righteousness and sovereignty】10-20 Elihu declared God was righteous and would not be partial to the powerful. He would repay a man for what he had done. Then how could one declare God was guilty? He also stated God had the absolute sovereignty, even our life and breath were in His hand. How could one declare God was unjust by one's experience?

※【Discuss the promise of Christ’s second coming】3-11 The Book of Revelation was the revelation of Christ and God's prophecy. Blessed are those who read it and act upon it because the time is near. John wrote and greeted the seven churches. He praised the love of Christ who has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us to be a kingdom and priests. Elihu only understood God's righteousness and sovereignty. He did not understand God's salvation on Job and His perfect will. John's letter let us see the glorious hope of Christ's coming and the promise of His power. He did not only warn all the peoples of the earth but also reminded the suffering churches to keep their righteousness, hear and act on the Lord's Word and to welcome the Lord's coming.

**B. See God’s majesty, through tests be refined to shine**

Test (Job 34:21-37) – Shine (Rev 1:12-20)

1.【Understand God one-sidedly】21-30 Elihu only understood God's righteousness. He said God's eyes were on all the ways of men and there was not one evil which could be hid from Him. (Ps 130:3-4) His one-sided reasoning still could not let Job turn back. God did not need to examine and He knew the deeds of the mighty so they were crushed by an instance. The cry of the poor came before Him. He kept the godless from ruling and from laying snares for the people. The Lord of judgment has great power.

※【See the holy righteous Lord】12-16 The suffering John saw the majesty of the holy and righteous Lord. But Elihu was only able to understand God in the mind. The Lord is the Son of Man who walks among the seven golden lampstands, the head of the church, the merciful high priest and the King who comes again! The churches ought to understand His holiness, light, faithfulness and righteousness. His eyes see through men's heart. His face is like the sun shining in all its brilliance. His voice is powerful. When the Lord appears, we shall be like Him. (1 Jn 3:2) Finally Job would also return due to the appearance of God. After the suffering, he would then understand more of God and see God personally like John.

2.【To be tested till the end】31-37 Elihu rebuked Job was foolish, ignorant and did not understand God's righteousness and sovereignty. How would God reward him on his terms and judgment? He rebuked Job's answer was like a wicked man without wisdom. He had to be tested to the utmost.

※【Be refined and shine】17-20 John's understanding on Christ was unlike Elihu. It was not from the mind but the experience of life. He personally saw and heard Him, that was the One who is alive for ever and ever. He holds the keys of death and Hades. After Job was tested, his old self fell and was refined by God. He rose from the dead and no more argue. He would shine like the gold lampstand and greatly glorify God.

**Ps 30 / Rev 11:19 Main theme: Implore and overcome, obey the Word and rejoice, and praise the Lord’s grace forever**

**-Obey the Word / The Ark**

Inside the Ark was God’s holy word. On the Doomsday God will judge all people with His words. Whoever violates and rebels will receive the retribution.

(1)【Ought to exalt the Lord’s words】1-3 Call to the Lord so I may overcome and be healed lest my soul goes down into the pit. Through failure and weakness I will exalt the Lord's words above everything.

(2)【Exhort the people to praise and give thanks to the Lord’s grace】4-5 For the Lord's anger lasts only a moment, but His favor lasts a lifetime. Therefore His saints ought to give thanks and praise Him.

(3)【Recount the testimony】6-11 Due to indulgence in grace, I nearly was in destruction down into the pit. But I cried to the Lord for His mercy and help. He turned my wailing into dancing.

(4)【Praise and give thanks to the Lord unceasingly】12 I will never forget the Lord's rich blessing. The more the forgiveness, the more I should love the Lord. From now on I will give thanks to Him forever!

**Central point of the wheels: Exalt the Lord’s words, through tests be the lampstand**

Dear Lord, may You let me go through tests and be refined by You, to understand You, to praise You and live out your glorious image!

**Job 35 / Rev 2**

**Main theme: Love the Lord zealously, be faithful and jealous, and obey the Word till the end**

**-Sing / Overcome (be self-righteous / keep the Word)**

Golden verses: Job 35:9-10, Rev 2:4-5

A discussion on singing and overcoming – on one side it concerned Elihu refuted Job for claiming himself as self-righteous and just, and took his wrong view point to replace God. He claimed that people in distress ought to cry out to God, to give songs in the night and wait for God to redress. On the other side it concerned that he who had an ear, let him hear what the Spirit said to the churches. This teaches us not to be self-righteous and do not lose the first love but to obey the Word by God and sing by faith in the dark faithfully till death without deviating.

**A. Do not hold on to self-righteousness, do not lose the first love, repent and overcome**

Be self-righteous (Job 35:1-8) – Repent (2:1-17)

1.【Insist to be self-righteous】1-3 Elihu continued to refute Job's erroneous view point which was his self-righteousness and he was just. He even claimed himself more than God's. He also said what did I gain by not sinning?

※【Forsake the first love】1-6 Our Lord walks among the seven golden lampstands. He sees and knows everything in the church. Why be self-righteous and just like Job? The Holy Spirit commended the deeds, hard work and perseverance of the church of Ephesus (desirable). They did not tolerate wicked men and were able to identify the false apostles. But one thing was against them: they had forsaken their first love. Job argued with God and was self-righteous. He also had forsaken the first love. He was self-centered and saddened God's heart. Therefore he had to remember from where he had fallen and to repent to come out from his own circle to let God be the center. Then he would no longer be self-righteous and just and restore the first love with God. God is righteous. Job feared God and shun evil. He suffered innocently and was not in vain. God saw and knew what he had persevered. How could he say 'what do I gain by not sinning?'

2.【God will search the good and evil】4-8 Elihu thought himself was cleverer than Job and his three friends. Thus he taught them: God was in the heavens above the clouds. Whether men did wickedly or righteously did not do anything to Him or give Him anything. He did not understand God's righteousness and unfailing love. How much He grieved for men's sins. (Gen 6:6; Eph 4:30) Good and evil do not do nothing to God, He is watching!

※【Repent and turn from evil will be blessed】7-17 How vivid and clear was the Holy Spirit's commendation, rebuke, warning and the promise to those who overcame towards the churches in Ephesus, Smyrna and Pergamum. Though the words of Elihu were more sincere and reasonable than the three friends of Job, there were areas of ambiguity and could not help Job to endure in hardship and overcome. The church in Smyrna (myrrh) was faithful in their suffering, even to the point of death. If Job was able to overcome in his suffering, he would also gain the crown of life. There were people who united with the secular and held to the teaching of Balaam and Nicolaitans in the church in Pergamum (much marriage). They had to confess and turn from evil. Then they might inherit the promise of triumph. God loves righteousness and hates evil. He rewards the good and punish the wicked. Men sin and do good have to do with God.

**B. Sing and wait, endure to obey and overcome till the end**

Sing (Job 35:9-16) – Overcome (Rev 2:18-29)

1.【Cry out in distress and God will show mercy】9-11 When men are in a safe environment, they will not call to God. When trouble comes, they cry out to God. God gives songs in the night and they wait for His compassion. Job cried to men in his distress and was disappointed. This was to force him to lift up to God, to sing to Him and wait for His grace.

※【Unwilling to repent and God will avenge】18-23 The Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire sees through the back of the many good deeds of the church in Thyatira. They tolerate the wrong teaching of Jezebel (the great prostitute), the false prophet. (Rev 17:1-6) God still gives them the chance to repent. How much more would God give to Job. He waited for him to call on to God and sing in the night! Those whose hope is in God will never be put to shame! Whoever does not repent will be punished severely! Today the church is facing the darkest age and needs men to get up to sing at night to focus in their cry and wait for God to turn everything.

2.【The arrogant and empty pleas will not be heard】12-16 Elihu stated God would not listen to the empty plea of the arrogant and wicked. The Almighty would not pay attention to it. Thus he rebuked Job not to speak empty talk without knowledge.

※【Keep the Word till the end will be given power】24-29 The Holy Spirit exhorted the rest who did not follow the teaching of Jezebel to hold on to what they had until the Lord comes. Those who overcame and did His will to the end, He promised to give authority over the nations. He also promised to give the Morning Star to them. (Re 22:16; 2 Pe 1:10) They would have the affirmation to be caught up to see the Lord. Those who were arrogant, pretentious, or did not keep the Lord's command or did not pay attention to the rebuke of the Holy Spirit would be dashed to pieces like pottery. Job was humble and contrite. He trembled at the Lord's words and held on to integrity. He obeyed to the end and would be accepted by God to gain the promise of triumph. John was full of God's love. He proclaimed the message of the Holy Spirit to encourage the churches. Elihu did not have God's love. What he said was empty rebuke.

**Ps 31 / Rev 12:1 Main theme: Plead to overcome temptation watchfully, and God will show great goodness and wonderful love**

**-Plead watchfully / Great goodness**

God hopes His children to be women in labor bearing fruit.

(1)【Pray and trust in the Lord to escape from the enemy’s snare】1-8 Free from all inner and outer enemies, then we may be a pregnant woman clothed with the sun (righteousness) and with the moon (God's unfailing love) under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head (remembering God's children with glory).

(2)【Cry out and trust in the Lord to escape from perseverance and distress】9-22 Those who love the Lord and obey His Word, and do His work are always in distress, persecution and temptation. But they fear, take refuge and cry to God. The Lord will keep them safe and show them His wonderful love.

(3)【Exhort the saints to love the Lord】23-24 Be faithful to trust in the Lord (call on Him in truth), be strong and take heart to put hope in Him. He will preserve and pay back the proud.

**Central point of the wheels: Repent and be favored, plead watchfully to escape from the enemy and wait to sing songs**

Dear Lord, may You let me take lesson to repent and turn from evil, to restore to the first love, to sing in the night and wait till the end!

**Job 36 / Rev 3**

**Main theme: Be humble to repent, obey the Word watchfully and be zealous to pursue**

**-Take lesson / Repent**

Golden verses: Job 36:22-23, Rev 3:10-11

A discussion on taking lesson and repentance – on one side it concerned Elihu continued to speak and stated that God delivered those who suffer in their suffering. Those who took lesson in distress would be favored to revive. On the other side it concerned the rebuke and warning of the Holy Spirit to the churches of Sardis and Laodicea, and the praise and encouragement to the church of Philadelphia. We ought to repent and turn from evil, be watchful to take lesson and to keep the Lord’s Word firmly, and then we will be granted an opened door and great revival.

**A. Take lesson in distress, keep the Word watchfully and be given an opened door**

Take lesson (Job 36:1-16) – Keep the Word (Rev 3:1-11)

1.【The righteous God will not be partial to men】1-7 Elihu said the righteous God was all knowing and did not show favoritism. He gave the afflicted their rights and enthroned the righteous with kings and exalted them forever. (Ps 75:10; 113:7-8)

※【Repent, consecrate and walk with God】1-6 The one who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars pointed out that the church in Sardis has a reputation of being alive, but they are dead. He has not found their deeds complete. This reminds them to be watchful to strengthen those who will die soon. The Lord's coming is soon. We ought to repent and purify ourselves. God does not show favoritism. But there are a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will dress in white and reign with the Lord till the end.

2.【Take lesson and be favored in distress】8-16 Through hardship God makes us humble and take lesson to repent of our evil. Then we will prosper and live in contentment like the whole family of Jacob in the years of hunger and was favored. If we do not listen and do not take lesson, we will be punished and die without knowledge like the result of the house of Eli. Those who suffer He delivers in their suffering and speaks to them in their affliction to enter a spacious place laden with choice food like Joseph and David.

※【Keep the Word and be favored in distress】7-11 The church in Philadelphia (brotherly love) is commended! They have little strength, yet they have firmly kept and persevered in the Word. The One who is holy and true, who holds the key of David will open the door which no one can shut. He promises to keep them from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world. Further, those who are of the synagogue of Satan will come and fall down at their feet. Job was loved. If he could keep the Word of patience, he would also be favored. All the plots of Satan on him would completely corrupt. The Lord is coming soon. We ought to hold on to what we have, lest someone will take our crown.

**B. Do not be self-deceiving, repent and be zealous and the spiritual rain will fall abundantly**

Repent (Job 36:17-33) – Self-deceiving (Rev 3:12-22)

1.【Repent, turn from evil and submit to God’s discipline】17-23 Elihu rebuked Job was laden with the judgment due the wicked. He should not let a large bribe turn him aside or be enticed by riches. He should repent and submit to God's punishment. Job suffered without guilt. Yet he ought to return and acknowledge that God's way was right and be submissive under His hand. (1 Pe 5:5-6)

※【Repent, turn from evil and be zealous】12-19 The Lord promises him who overcomes He will make a pillar in the temple of God. He will write on him the name of God and the name of the city and His new name. Job took his lesson in distress. He kept the Lord's Word and would also be favored and have the promise. The church in Laodicea is neither cold nor hot. They boast and deceive themselves. They think they have acquired wealth. Instead they are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. Therefore they ought to repent and buy from God gold refined in the fire - to be filled with faith. They ought also to buy white clothes - to be sanctified by grace. They have to buy salve - to gain the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God better. Even the church in Laodicea is loved by God. How much more for Job? Therefore we ought to return to take lesson, turn from our self-righteousness and let enthusiasm grow.

2.【The spiritual rain falls abundantly and provides abundant food】24-33 At the end Elihu wanted Job to extol God's work through His creation. God pours down abundant showers from heaven according to His will and scatters His lightning on the world. He provides food in abundance and revives the land. He commands the lightning to strike its mark. His thunder announces the coming storm. The heaven and earth are arranged by God and all things serve Him. (Ps 119:91) Job too ought to return and take lesson and be the servant of God without arguing.

※【Open the door of the heart and sit together on the throne】20-22 The church which is neither cold nor hot will turn the Lord away. But He is still standing and knocking at the door. He is waiting for the door to be opened so we may sit with Him together to enjoy the abundance of the kingdom of God. We also need to unite with Him to sit enthroned forever. Job did not acknowledge that God's way was right. He also turned God behind the door. But God still stood at the door to wait to show His grace. Only if our heart is opened and the spiritual rain pours, we will have double portion of the blessings. He who has an ear, let him hear. When the Holy Spirit pours, all the land revives and turns to the Lord! (Ac 1:8)

**Ps 32 / Rev 12:2 Main theme: Confess sorrowfully, be obedient to follow the will and will rejoice with gladness**

**-Confess / In pain**

If we are contrite to confess, it is like paying the price to labor in pain. Then evil will go away and God’s unfailing love will surround us.

(1)【Blessed is he whose sins are forgiven】1-4 Whoever does not confess withers. God's hand is heavy. Only by acknowledging honestly and be contrite to stop evil to produce fruit of repentance, then we will be forgiven.

(2)【We ought to grab the chance to seek the Lord】5-7 Now is the time of salvation. Seek the Lord's holy words, confess and pray to the Lord and He will freely pardon. He will protect us from trouble so we may sing songs.

(3)【We ought to take lesson and be submissive to run a righteous path】8-9 The Lord watches over you, so do not be like the horse or the mule and act wantonly.

(4)【Trust in the Lord and obey will rejoice】10-11 Turn from evil and do good by the Lord. Then the Lord's unfailing love will surround him. Be glad by the Lord because more blessings are ahead!

**Central point of the wheels: Confess and repent, take lesson, proclaim extensively and intercede**

Dear Lord, I am willing to repent and take lesson, to open the door of my heart, to be in one with You, be faithful to proclaim the Word and intercede, and revival comes over the land!

**Job 37 / Rev 4**

**Main theme: Listen, see and act before the Lord, worship the Almighty God day and night**

**-Fear / Praise**

Golden verses: Job 37:23-24, Rev 4:11

A discussion on fear and praise – on one side it concerned the last words of Elihu. He wanted Job to pay attention to listen and consider God’s majesty and power, and then the troubles would be like the clouds which covered the day and be ultimately passed away. He would see the day as God would deliver him. Job ought to fear God and no longer argue with Him. On the other side it concerned John advanced in the spirit. He was inspired by the Holy Spirit. He saw the heavenly door was opened, the vision before the throne and the worship and praise of the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures in heaven.

**A. Come up before the throne and understand the Almighty God**

Understand God (Job 37:1-13) – Worship God (Rev 4:1-6U)

1.【God does great things beyond our understanding】1-5 Through thunders and lightning Elihu spoke of God's majesty, power and wonderful deeds. The majestic voice resounded when the thunders roared. The lightning was sent to the ends of the earth when it was unleashed. The voice of God shook the earth. (Ps 29:4) He did great things beyond our understanding.

※【Come before the throne and discern in the spirit】1-2 John was in the Spirit when he was distressed. He saw a door stood open in heaven. A voice he had first heard speaking to him like a trumpet. It made him went up before the throne to hear the revelation and prophecy of the end. Elihu did not have any experience of suffering nor the experience before the throne. He only knew God's majestic sound. But he did not understand the mystery of God's will. John wanted to write what would take place which he had heard before the throne to bring comfort and hope to the suffering churches so they might really hear the voice in heaven. Job could only hear God spoke to him to convince him and see God personally when men's voice stopped.

2.【Everything obeys the order to accomplish God’s will】6-13 Rain and snow obey God's order and fall from the heaven to punish men or to show His love to accomplish God's will. God's words are like rain and snow which come down from heaven. They will not return to God empty but will accomplish what He desires. (Isa 55:10-11) Job ought to see through men's words and value God's words all the more. He ought to have obeyed God's will and waited till the end and this would not be empty.

※【Worship before the Lord and discern His will】3-6 John saw God who sat on the throne was like a shining precious gem, full of glory and encircled by a rainbow exhibiting God's everlasting covenant and redemptive love! From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder displaying God's righteousness and majesty! The seven lamps before the throne represented the perfect Holy Spirit, the light of life and the everlasting light. (Isa 60:19-20; Jn 8:12) The elders and the four living creatures worshiped and served before a sea of glass. They were discerned in the will of God like a crystal. Rain and snow and all creations are submissive to God. Job ought to pay attention and obey in his distress so he might be shone by the Holy Spirit to understand in the heart with clear eyes like coming before the throne to worship. Everything on earth would no longer be a trouble to him.

**B. Fear the Almighty God and praise the Almighty God**

Fear God (Job 37:14-24) – Praise God (Rev 4:6L-11)

1.【Pay attention to listen and consider God’s wonders】14-20 Listen to this, Job, and consider the wonders of Him who is perfect in knowledge! How does God make the lightning flash and the clouds hang poised? How insignificant, foolish and limited is men! Can we join Him in spreading out the skies? How can we be self-righteous and argue with God to be swallowed up?

※【Be filled with wisdom and praise God】6-8 The four living creatures namely the lion (righteousness and jealousy), the ox (hard-working and faithful), the man (compassionate and sympathetic) and the flying eagle (a heavenly life that sees accurately and far). They all represented Christ as the king, the faithful servant, the Son of Man and the identity and characteristic of the Son of God. The living creatures were covered with eyes all around, full of wisdom and the Spirit of revelation. They knew the ruler and the everlasting Almighty. They saw thoroughly and pleaded completely. They praised God before the throne unceasingly day and night. Elihu could only look up to the sky and understand the insignificance and limitation of men through God's wonderful deeds. Through hardship God prompted Job's life to ascend (Pro 15:24) from his ears had heard of Him, but now his eyes had seen Him. Then he was able to discern everything and praise God wholeheartedly.

2.【Fear and wait for God】21-24 Finally Elihu encouraged Job to wait patiently. One day when all the dark clouds had scattered and hardship had passed away, God would not oppress men! Out of the north He comes in golden splendor; God comes in awesome majesty. Job ought to fear God and no longer claimed to be wise.

※【Praise the Almighty God】9-11 How wonderful and harmonious is the worship in the sky! But the relationship of Job and his friends were nearly broken. When the four living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to the ever living God who sits on the throne, the elders fall down and worship Him. They lay their crowns before the throne and praise the Almighty for by His will all things were created! Only by coming before the throne could Job understand God who is full of love and compassion through the dark clouds. He would then understand the good intention of the suffering and give thanks to praise God and fear God wholeheartedly.

**Ps 33 / Rev 12:3 Main theme: Do not be afraid of the enemy’s pomp; fear God and obey His Word will overcome**

**-Trust in God / Overcome the enemy**

(1)【Consecrate and trust in the Lord to praise】1-3 Those who consecrate by the blood and are justified to be righteous do not fear the ferocity of the enemy. They praise and extol by the Lord.

(2)【As God is Almighty】4-12 Understand the God Almighty. Only if he will fear and obey the Lord's command, God will treat him with unfailing love and faithfulness.

(3)【The eyes of the Lord look on】13-19 God watches and puts His eyes on those who fear Him to deliver them from death and trouble.

(4)【Wait in hope and trust in the Lord will rejoice】20-22 Do not wait complacently but be in one heart to focus on God's promise; pray watchfully while waiting and make every effort to be perfect. We also have to trust wholeheartedly to look up to the Lord (not by trusting men or ourselves). Then the Lord's unfailing love will rest upon us.

**Central point of the wheels: Understand God’s will before the throne, plead and trust in God and overcome the big dragon**

Dear Lord, may You let me not be troubled, to understand your will deeply, to fear your name, to wait in hope patiently and praise You by faith!

**Job 38 / Rev 5**

**Main theme: Thirst to understand the Scriptures, understand the Lord’s Almighty and learn from the Lord to deny everything**

**-Listen to God’s words / Thirst for the scroll**

Golden verses: Job 38:1-2, Rev 5:9-10

A discussion on listening to God’s words and thirsting for the scroll – on one side it concerned the conversation between Job and his four friends had ended. Then God appeared and spoke to Job. He did not explain why he had to suffer or replied his argument. But God issued a series of questions with love. Through His creations He made Job understand His will and understand his humility, ignorance and limitations. Then how could he argue with God? On the other side it concerned John wept as he saw no one could open the scroll or to break the seals. When the Lamb who was slain went to the throne to take the scroll, heaven and earth praised with one voice. We ought to humble and thirst to seek God’s will and the mystery of the scroll and sing praise to God all our lives!

**A. Thirst to seek and understand the Lamp and prostrate before the Lord**

Listen attentively (Job 38:1-24) – Thirst (Rev 5:1-8)

1.【Listen attentively to God’s reply】1-11 Out of the storm God exhibited His unfailing love and majesty to Job. Who could darken God's counsel with words without knowledge? Oh Job, brace yourself like a man! Did you know God laid the earth's foundation and stretched a measuring line cross it? Though trouble was like the sea being shut up, finally it would be controlled. God shut it up and halted all the proud waves.

※【Thirst for the scroll to be opened】1-4 There was a scroll in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. As no one was able to open the scroll, John wept. How humble and thirsty he was to understand the revelation of the scroll with one heart. No one was able to resolve Job's query in his mind. Instead they made him more miserable resulting to unceasing arguments. Only by listening to God's answer humbly, then he could understand God's will like John and halt his proud waves in the mind.

2.【Understand the boundlessness of God’s creation】12-24 God used light to shine all across the land and showed His light in the darkness. God asked Job if he had journeyed to the springs of the sea or seen the gates of the shadow of death? Had he comprehended the vast expanses of the earth? Light and darkness each had their way of abode. Storehouses of the snow and the hail were to reserve for times of trouble and days of war. (Exo 9:22-26; Jos 10:10-11) What was the way to the place where the lightning was dispersed? (Exo 14:19-20) Did you know how did the east winds do for the good of God? (Exo 14:21-22)

※【Understand the Lamb can open the scroll】5-8 An elder comforted John not to weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, the Lamb who was slain, Christ, was able to open the scroll and its seven seals. This Lamb has triumphed on the cross. He had seven horns and seven eyes (Almighty and all wisdom) which are the seven spirits of God. He took the scroll from the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. Then the elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They worshiped God, the trinity. The Lamb is the root of all revelation, power and wisdom. Job ought to understand God's unlimited creative power and His absolute sovereignty to fall down before Him and no longer be ignorant in God's will.

**B. Plead the Holy Spirit to grant revival, praise God and worship God**

Plead for revival (Job 38:25-41) – Sing together (Rev 5:9-14)

1.【God sends rain and grants revival】25-30 Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the thunderstorm? He waters the desolate wasteland like the Holy Spirit comes to restore the land. (Ac 1:8) The rain and the dew, the ice and the frost are made wonderfully. They are all from the Almighty and all wisdom God.

※【Sing the song of the Lamb’s redemption together】9-10 The four living creatures and the elders sang a new song to praise the Lamb who was slain. With His blood He purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation to be a kingdom and priests. And they would reign on the earth together with Him. Through suffering, the dried up wasteland of Job would see rain. Job gained life from the dead and his whole family was blessed to sing a new song. This also represented the church which had gone through suffering and is restored in the glorious kingdom of Christ. They will sing not only the song of God's creation but also the song of redemption of the Lamb, a song of victory!

2.【God’s love is throughout the universe】31-41 Who endowed the heart with wisdom or gave understanding to the mind? Who had bound the stars like the chains of the constellations and brought forth in their seasons in the sky, sometimes hidden and sometimes present? (Mt 2:1-2, 9-10) Who could cover the dry land with a flood of water? Who made the lions and the little raven look up to God's provision? The earth is full of God's unfailing love and creatures. Wisdom and power belong to Him! (Ps 33:5; 104:24; Dan 2:20-21)

※【The angels and every creature praise together】11-14 There were thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand angels surrounding the throne and singing their praise. Even every creature in heaven and on earth and on the sea extolled the Lamb who was slain. They shouted with joy and sang because God watered the land abundantly and provided lavishly. They ascribed honor and glory and power to Him who sat on the throne and the Lamb! God edified Job and exhibited His Love, wisdom and power through the suffering on him. He finally acknowledged Amen and fell down to worship and praised God.

**Ps 34 / Rev 12:4 Main theme: Seek the Lord at all times, fear God and obey the Word and the enemy cannot harm us**

**-Fear God / Be harmed**

How diabolic was the evil one towards God’s children! He used the tail which men did not pay attention to sweep down one third of the spiritual and whoever could shine for the Lord. He also wanted to devour the male child whom God used mightily. How can we avoid his harm?

(1)【Have the Lord’s presence at all times and seek humbly】1-4 We ought to listen to the Word, study the Scripture and pray.

(2)【Blessed is he who fears the Lord】5-14 Seek the Lord and make every effort to be mature with a fearing heart - with no evil words from the mouth, no lies from the lips and seek daily to fear and turn from evil and do good. This is true blessings and he will lack no good thing for the Lord will encamp around and deliver him.

(3)【The righteous will be protected while the wicked will be removed】15-22 The righteous are contrite and cry out to God and He will deliver them from all their troubles. They are redeemed and not condemned. The wicked cannot hurt them. The wicked do evil and will be condemned. They will be endangered by their enemies.

**Central point of the wheels: Thirst at all times, fear God and obey the Word, praise and overcome**

Dear Lord, how ignorant and negligible I am. I am willing to thirst to seek the mystery of the scroll, to praise and proclaim You with all my heart.

**Job 39 / Rev 6**

**Main theme: Discern the future, be secured in the Lord and be brave to deal with the enemy**

**-Discern / Overcome**

Golden verses: Job 39:5-8, Rev 6:11

A discussion on discernment and overcoming – on one side it concerned God taught Job to understand His sovereignty and unfailing love through the characteristics of the wild animals. Men could not tame them but they were submissive to God. On the other side it concerned when the Lamb opened the first seal, calamities started on the earth. The anti-Christ which was represented by the beast and the false prophets acted in collusion with each other to dominate the world. We need to discern the power of the beast in the spirit and do not be led astray. Further we need to understand the prophecy thoroughly and be brave to overcome the inner and outer enemies.

**A. Discern in the spirit, be watchful to guard and do not be led astray**

Understand the enemy (Job 39:1-18) – Guard against the enemy (Rev 6:1-8)

1.【Discern the power of the beast in the spirit】1-4 With a loving voice God continued to ask Job, 'Do you do know when the mountain goats give birth and when the doe bears her fawn?' These represented the power of the beasts. We can discern their nature and plot from the prophecy if we are like Daniel who was discerned before the throne.

※【Be watchful to guard against the anti-Christ】1-2 John watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals and saw a white horse. Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown. There is a time for everything under heaven. The anti-Christ will appear in pretending false peace. He will finally expose his ferocious face like the mountain goat and the doe bear and give birth. They too have a time for it. (2 Th 2:3-6) Therefore we have to see clearly the hidden false kindness and peace behind the anti-Christ. He is prearranging for the horrible battle (a bow without the arrow) and bent on conquest. We must not be led astray by the false peace of the false Christ and the false prophet. (Mt 24:23-27)

2.【Run wildly and presumptuously and unruly】5-8 The wild donkey is arrogant and indulging, representing the power of the beast runs wild everywhere. It cannot be subdued (Jer 2:24) and lives in the salt flats of the wasteland. Men cannot tame it.

※【The bloody battle takes away the peace】3-4 When the Lamb opened the second seal, another fiery red horse appeared which represented the beast was going to launch a bloody war. They killed one another and took away peace like the wild donkey untied the ropes and ran wild to jeopardize the people with no one to control. We ought to be a humble colt to let Jesus ride on to glorify the Lord's name and forever exalt the Lord as the King of peace!

3.【The wild ox is forceful and how can you trust him】9-12 The wild ox has great strength but it will not allow anyone to labor it. Can you trust him to till the land, bring in your grain or gather your harvest?

※【Do not listen to God and famine comes】5-6 When the third seal was opened, John saw a black horse. Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Hunger came and oil and wine was rare. The wild ox has great strength but we cannot trust him. Only by putting hope in God's compassion wholeheartedly and take His words and feed on His faithfulness, then we will not be hungry. (Ps 37:3; Jer 15:16) This is because not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord!

4.【Treat the young harshly】13-18 The ostrich flaps its wings joyfully, appearing to display its kindly pinions. But she treats her young harshly and tramples on her eggs. When she encounters her enemies' pursuit, she sticks her head in the sand. She was created without wisdom and a share of good sense and represented the kind of cruelty and self-deception.

※【The power of death comes】7-8 When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, John saw a pale horse. Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague and by the wild beasts of the earth. The land is full of brutality and killing like the ostrich is without human sense and trample on what it bears. The disaster of death will come on the land. We ought to bear God's mind and save men quickly to pass from death to life.

**B. Be brave and powerful to face the enemy, be firm and stable on high, and hard to hide if guilty**

Good in fighting (Job 39:19-30) – To martyr (Rev 6:9-17)

1.【Be brave and forceful and good in fighting】19-25 The strength of the horse is given by God. He is brave, forceful and good in fighting and ready to sacrifice. He cannot stand still when the trumpet sounds. He is eager to rush to the battle field and charge the enemies.

※【Be brave to martyr】9-11 When the Lamb opened the fifth seal, John saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the Word of God and the testimony they had maintained. They were bold and unyielding. They fought courageously in the battle like the steed and trampled the enemies. They were faithful till death and were given white robes and words of comfort.

2.【Be firm and stable on high】26-30 Does the hawk take flight by your wisdom and spread his wings toward the south? He builds his nest on high and dwells on a cliff. A rocky crag is his stronghold. He is far-sighted and invincible. May God give us the two wings of a great eagle (Scripture reading and prayer) so we may fly to the desert and be protected by God from the power of the dragon and the beast. (Jude 1:20-21; Rev 12:14) "Where the slain are, there will be the vultures." This warns the mortal man that the Lord's day of judgment is near! All nations gather for battle and will finally be crushed and become a great feast for the birds. This also reminds us to fix our eyes and follow the path of the Lord closely and always be watchful to welcome the Lord's coming. (Mt 24:27-28; Rev 19:17-18)

※【Hard to hide if guilty】12-17 When the Lamb opened the sixth seal, there was a great earthquake. The sun turned black and the moon turned blood red. The stars fell to earth. The heaven and earth receded like a scroll. (Heb 1:12) The kings of the earth, the princes and the people are not willing to bow down to the Most High and repent. They wishfully think to hide in caves and among the rocks of the mountains to escape from the wrath of Him who sits on the throne and the Lamb. The saints ought to follow the suffering path of the Lord closely and soar on wings like eagles to dwell in the shelter of the Most High to wait watchfully, to see thoroughly and pray completely in the height for the sinners, lest they may be left behind. (Ps 91:1; Isa 40:31; Lk 17:33-37) God's great day of wrath has come, and who can stand?

**Ps 35 / Rev 12:5 Main theme: Contend by the power of the throne and lead all people to the Lord**

**-Contention / The throne**

To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations (Rev 2:26) is the male child. He is the objective of the enemy who wants to devour him.

(1)【Contend by the power of the throne】1-10 Our inner and outer enemies are pursuing us day and night to put us to death. We ought to contend by the Almighty Lord before the throne and we will overcome.

(2)【Overcome evil with good and God redresses】11-25 Tell the Lord how the enemies repay evil for good. God will rise to defend and does not allow them to devour me.

(3)【Exalt the Lord as great will rejoice】26-27 God will put the enemies in shame. I will become more humble after being favored and exalt the Lord. Then I will have blessings upon blessings and shout with joy like Joseph.

(4)【Proclaim and praise God all day long】28 Be grateful and repay His grace unceasingly to lead men to righteousness to glorify God and benefit men.

**Central point of the wheels: Be discerned in the spirit before the throne, overcome in the contention and repay the kindness**

Dear Lord, may You let me be watchful to prepare, to eat up the scroll, be discerned to overcome the enemy, to dwell in You forever and be protected!

**Job 40 / Rev 7**

**Main theme: Do not contend with God, consecrate to serve the Lord and be secure in troubles**

**-Take lesson / Be sealed (do not contend / serve the Lord)**

Golden verses: Job 40:7-9, Rev 7:12

A discussion on taking lesson and be sealed – on one side it concerned Job finally humbled consciously before God. He closed his mouth and no longer defended himself by sophistry with God. He went through distress and took lesson like the behemoth that was secure without fear when the river overflowed. On the other side were the 144,000 from Israel all set apart for the Lord in great disasters. They received God’s seal and were freed from injury. Further, those who went through great tribulation would rejoice at God’s salvation before the throne and served Him forever. Job ought to take lesson from the behemoth that God created, to praise in tribulation and believe God can create him to brace like a man full of testimony.

**A. Do not contend with God and take lesson to be sealed**

Take lesson (Job 40:1-14) – Be sealed (Rev 7:1-10)

1.【Cover the mouth with a hand and take lesson humbly】1-5 How could Job contend with God and argue with the Almighty? Faced with a series of questions from God, he could only be silent and take lesson humbly. He acknowledged himself was so lowly and had nothing to say.

※【Set apart for the Lord and be sealed by God】1-4 Before the Lamb had opened the seventh seal, John saw an angel holding the seal of the living God. He called out loudly to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea until they had put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of God. In the great tribulation, God would set apart the godly for Himself. (Ps 4:3; Gal 6.17) These were 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel who were sealed. Suffering also set Job apart to be humble as God's servant to take God's seal and completely belonged to Him. He no longer contended for himself and shut up before God. He did not have any words of his old self.

2.【How can we condemn God】6-14 Thus God spoke to Job again out of the storm to brace himself like a man. How could he discredit God's justice and condemn Him to justify himself? Did you have an arm like God's? How could he compare himself with God and remove all the wicked by his power to bring down the proud? If he could, 'then I myself will admit to you that your own right hand can save you.' (Isa 40:18; 46:5)

※【Take lesson humbly and take God’s seal】5-10 God's almighty arm will protect His chosen people in the great tribulation from any harm. Job ought to humble and take lesson. How could he condemn God to justify himself? He did not know he was still under the protection of the Almighty God. Among the twelve tribes, Dan was removed without God's seal. Their tribe set their carved idols and provoked God's jealousy till the days of captivity. (Gen 49:17; Jdg 18:30) How could Job replace God, condemn God or save himself? Only by trusting in God wholeheartedly, then He will save completely. (Heb 7:25) John also saw a great multitude standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. After Job was bitterly refined, he also stood before God and rejoiced to testify God's glory!

**B. Be strong in the faith, consecrate and serve the Lord, and be secure in troubles**

Be secure (Job 40:15-24) – Overcome (Rev 7:11-17)

1.【The creation of behemoth is wonderful】15-20 The behemoth is wonderfully made. He feeds on grass like an ox. But his strength is beyond comparison. His strength is in his loins and belly. (Pro 31:17; Eph 6:14) His tails sways like a straight up cedar. His bones are like tubes of bronze and his limbs like rods of iron, very strong. He ranks first among the works of God. Yet his Maker gives him teeth like the sword, a weapon to attack the enemies. The hills bring him their produce. He enjoys the abundance of God.

※【Rejoice at God’s salvation】11-14 Numerous people stood before the throne and shouted in joy at God's salvation. Due to the salvation of Christ on the cross, they were sanctified and overcame. They praised and triumphed. They were wonderfully made, holy and beloved, and protected by God like the behemoth! All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped and praised God. God made the behemoth and He also made Job so he might be strong in his body and spirit after the distress to become powerful and blessed by God. He would finally fall face down to worship and praise God.

2.【Hide and guard, and be secure in troubles】21-24The behemoth is created with great strength. He lies under the lotus plants and hides among the reeds in the marsh to enjoy the coolness of the lotuses and the poplars by the stream surround him. When the river rages, he is not alarmed. He is secure, though the river surges against his mouth. He is watchful against the enemies and no one can capture him. It was the same for God to edify Job.

※ 【Overcome in distress and be favored to serve the Lord】15-17 These are they who have come out of the great tribulation. They are like the behemoth hidden in the Lord, full of power. They are courageous and triumphant. They not only use the blood of the Lamb to cleanse themselves, they also overcome the enemies by the blood of the Lamb. (Rev 12:11) Therefore they will serve God day and night before the throne. He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. The sun and the scorching heat and the flood will not beat them. (Ps 29:10) The Lamb will be their shepherd and lead them to springs of living water. God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. When Job had finished the difficult journey of the desert, he would be full of God's comfort. Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. God will turn his wailing into dancing! (Ps 30:5-11)

**Ps 36 / Rev 12:6 Main theme: Do not be self-deceiving, escape from sin, take shelter in the Lord’s bosom and be full of pleasures**

**-Take shelter in the Lord / The desert**

To flee to the desert, then we may see no one but the Lord and hear the voice of God’s beloved Son. By then we may escape from the intrusion of the power of the worldly sin and our soul may live. God’s children though on earth, ought to dwell in the Lord.

(1)【Why do the wicked perish】1-4 His heart does not fear God. He flatters himself and deceives himself. The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful. He commits himself to a sinful course.

(2)【We ought to know God’s love and take shelter under the Lord】5-7 God does not wish the wicked to perish but everyone to be saved. Find refuge in the Lord's wings of love so the sins may be forgiven and be redeemed. The curse of the day of judgment may be spared to gain the eternal life and everlasting blessings.

(3)【The Lord’s grace is abundant】8-9 We ought to open our mouth wide to hunger and thirst for righteousness. The Lord's Word is the bread of life and the river of delight so we may be transformed by the Word and the Spirit to be a holy and radiant instrument.

(4)【Understand the Lord and trust in Him to overcome the enemy and save men】10-12 May God's love upholds those who understand Him, who bear the mind of God, be courageous to do good, deny oneself to risk death to overcome the enemies to save men and be spared from the Hades. (Jer9:24; 22:16)

**Central point of the wheels: Take lesson and receive the seal, escape and hide in the Lord, be protected and serve the Lord**

Dear Lord, may You let me be humble till the end, do not defend by sophistry, to triumph by the cross, to trust in You, to overcome and be secure in troubles!

**Job 41 / Rev 8**

**Main theme: There is no terror in the Lord, plead the Almighty, ought to fear outside the Lord**

**-Without fear / Ought to fear**

Golden verses: Job 41:12, Rev 8:3-4

A discussion on without fear and ought to fear – on one side it concerned the creation of the leviathan was wonderful. But it could not be tamed by men so as to make Job understand God’s power and the nature of his old self which was also hard to submit. Only God could make him surrender and become a strong and unbeatable warrior. On the other side it concerned the judgment and sovereignty of the Lamb and the power of prayer of the saints. The opening of the seventh seal started the plagues of the seven trumpets. We ought to pray for the sinners so they may avoid the plagues and inherit the everlasting blessings.

**A. Pray and power can subdue the old nature and forever be a slave of righteousness**

Power (Job 41:1-11) – Prayer (Rev 8:1-4)

1.【God has the power to subdue the leviathan】1-6 Through the brutal, inconvincible and untamable special character of the leviathan, God taught Job to understand His power. No matter when men use fishhook and rope, they cannot subdue it. Will he be gentle to make an agreement with you and be your slave for life? Can you make a pet of him or barter for him and make you gain? God made Job understand his own nature was also hard to convince. Only God's cords of human kindness and hooks of love could make him subdue without struggling to contend and willing to be God's slave of love.

※【The Lamb can open the seventh seal】1-2 No one was able to open the prophecy and mystery of the seventh seal. Only the Lamb opened them one by one. Similarly, no one can control the leviathan. Only God has the power. When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour which was the tolerance of God to the mortal men. He waited for men to repent quickly without being a slave to sin. God was even more tolerant and waited for Job to subdue completely and willing to be won by God forever. The seven angels who were given seven trumpets stood before God and were ready to execute God's order any time. Job ought to stand before God to obey to take lesson and accept God's judgment.

2.【Who can contend with the leviathan】7-11 Who can fight with the ferocious leviathan and catch him? Even if you fill his hide with harpoons or his head with fishing spears, they are all in vain. There is no such ferocious man on earth who dares to provoke him. Thus Job should not be against God who made the leviathan. Who can stand before God? All things are from Him and through Him and to Him. Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him? (Ro 11:35-36) The leviathan is made with a graceful form. Who can strip off his outer coat or dares to open his mouth and ringed about his teeth?

※【There is power in the prayers of the saints】3-4 The wholehearted prayers of the saints were powerful. Like incense it went up to the golden altar before the throne. This was the united worship of the heaven and earth. (Jas 5:16-18) Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake. Who could win over the anti-God power like the leviathan? Only by the powerful prayer of the saints could they demolish all the strongholds of Satan. (Mt 16:19; 2 Co 10:3-5) The prayers of the righteous have great effect and prayers of faith can overcome inner and outer enemies! God edified Job and gave him his graceful form like the leviathan to obey the Lord's Word so his soul might prosper to be a warrior of intercession!

**B. Be strong without fear; do wicked and plagues increase**

Without fear (Job 41:12-34) – Ought to fear (Rev 8:5-13)

1.【The old self be subdued and be strong without fear】12-34 The scales of the leviathan are very strong and no one can pierce through. Smoke pours from his nostrils as from a boiling pot. He is not afraid of the sword or the club. He is king of the sea and fears nothing. The old self of Job was also unconvinced by any one. Only God could subdue him and make him to be a strong warrior to be clothed with the full armor. He was filled with courage to exhibit God's glory and accomplished His will like Jeremiah was made to be a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall. God was with him and the enemies could not overcome.

※【Be obstinate and plague will be added which we ought to fear】5-13 The first three angels sounded the trumpets and a lot of people and living creatures in the sea died. The rest of the people were still obstinate and unwilling to repent. The fourth angel sounded the trumpet and a third of the sun, the moon and the stars were struck. Darkness covered the earth. Men's hearts were filled with evil and could not see the light. An eagle in the air warned the men on earth - the other three angels would sound their trumpets. Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth. We ought to fear for our sins! If we do not reject the dark and come to the light, disasters will be added to disasters. We are storing up wrath against ourselves! (Ro 2:5) If the old self of Job surrendered to God, God would be with him. He would have insight without fear. Through hardship he would be able to enjoy the everlasting kingdom of God with all the favored righteous people.

**Ps 37 / Rev 12:7 Main theme: Trust in the Lord and turn from evil, do good and the heavenly army will contend for me**

**-Do good / Contend**

How to overcome the enemy? Turn from evil and do good, pray and wait, then God will send the angels from heaven to help us.

(1)【Do not fret, trust in God and do good】1-10 As the days of disasters of the wicked are near, we ought to trust in God to do good and delight in Him. We entrust our things to the Lord through prayers and be still to wait patiently for Him.

(2)【God will uphold the righteous】11-40 The wicked plot against the righteous, but God will let those who harm others harm themselves because He upholds the righteous. Therefore we ought to turn from evil and make every effort to do good. Give generously all our days and utter wisdom. Lead men to righteousness and be blameless before God. Though we may encounter trouble, God will deliver us. The multitudes of heaven contend for the righteous and the enemies will fall and cannot get up again. Though the wicked flourish to the top of the sky, but they will turn to nothing in an instant.

**Central point of the wheels: Turn from evil and do good, pray to overcome and be brave without fear**

Dear Lord, may You let me be willing to be your slave of righteousness, to be burnt by the fire of love, to intercede for the sinners and enjoy your glory together!

**Job 42 / Rev 9**

**Main theme: Be contrite and intercede to gain the double blessings; be rebellious and plague upon plague**

**-Repent / Be obstinate (be blessed / disasters come)**

Golden verses: Job 42:5-6, Rev 9:4

A discussion on repentance and obstinacy – on one side it concerned that after the bitter refinement of Job because of God’s faithfulness and great love, Job experienced from hearing God with his ears to seeing Him with his eyes. He deeply repented for himself and despised himself. He also had a generous heart to intercede and sacrifice for his friends. He was favored with double blessings. On the other side it concerned God’s patience and endurance towards mankind. He waited for them to repent in disasters. If they still were obstinate and continued to sin, there would be plague after plague and consequently destruction. From the experience of Job’s suffering and endurance and his good result, we may see God’s heart is full of compassion and with great mercy. He became an example of patience for every suffering person. (Jas 5:10-11) John warned all the wicked of the prophecy of the last calamities that they ought to repent because the time is near. (Rev 22:12)

**A. Be humble to repent is pleasing to God; be obstinate is miserable**

Be contrite (Job 42:1-9) – Be obstinate (Rev 9:1-11)

1.【Repent and be favored】1-9 Job was finally convinced by the love of God and acknowledged His Almighty and sovereignty. No plan of His can be thwarted. He also acknowledged his foolishness and ignorance. God's deeds were too wonderful which he could not understand. The life of Job had a favorable turn. His ears had heard of God but now his eyes had seen Him. Therefore he despised himself deeply in dust and ashes. He understood that all his righteousness was a body of sores which was filthy to the utmost and there was nothing to boast of!

※【Be obstinate and disasters come】1-11 God's punishment of His judgment would come upon the mortal men. This could not be rejected just like His will on Job would be accomplished and no one could prevent. When the fifth angel sounded his trumpet, a body of locusts came up from the abyss bringing the power of the evil spirit of the scorpions that harmed men. This was to punish those who were stubborn and unwilling to repent like being struck by the sting of a scorpion. They would be tortured for five months. Job was attacked by his friends successively like the sting of the scorpions. This was also out of God so he might finally turn back to Him to be contrite and favored. The sting of sin and the power of death could no longer harm him. (1 Co 15:55-57) But to those who are stubborn and unwilling to repent, they are tortured with pain. They seek death, but will not find it. Abaddon (Destroyer), the angel of the Abyss would be their king. After Job had turned, his old self was no more the king. Instead he submitted humbly under the powerful hands of God and let God be the king in his life.

2.【Sacrifice to avoid punishment】1-9 The righteous God was angry with Job's three friends. He rebuked them for they had not spoken of Him what was right, as His servant Job had. He ordered them to go to Job offer sacrifice and atone for their sin. God then stopped His wrath and did not deal with them according to their folly. Job endured till the end. When the time came God defended for him. So the three friends did as commanded.

※【Be sealed to avoid the plague】1-11 God's wrath would soon come to the mortal men. He ordered the locusts to bring the power of the evil spirit to harm all those who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. But they could not harm those who had the seal of God. The three friends of Job obeyed and took their lesson and humbly acknowledged their sin. God wanted to spare their punishment due to the intercession of Job. We who belong to God have the seal of the Holy Spirit and the cross. (Eph 1:13; Gal 6:17) Only if we will humble to repent, God is with us and we will not be disturbed or are afraid of disasters. We will finally praise and triumph!

**B. Intercede with love and gain double blessings; be obstinate add plague**

Be blessed (Job 42:10-17) – Plague comes (Rev 9:12-21)

1.【Intercede for the friends and be blessed for double】10-15 The loving and faithful God made Job prosperous again and gave him twice as much blessings because he obeyed His command and with God's tolerance and compassion he interceded for his friends. He no longer counted the evil of his friends and forgave them from the heart. Thus God clothed him with beautiful holy garments to replace his body of sores. After Job was bitterly refined, he was filled with God's love and became a glorious priest! His family and friends came to comfort him and gave him gifts of silver and gold and enjoyed his gratitude and gladness. Not only did God gave him double the portion in wealth, Job had seven sons and three daughters. His daughters were found the most beautiful in all the land. They also inherited along with their brothers. They enjoyed abundance together and the whole family was blessed with good witness. (Num 27:1-7)

※【Intercede watchfully and grab to save the souls】12-19 Men's heart are stubborn and unwilling to repent and the first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come, plague after plague. Job was refined by God. He was contrite and favored with blessings upon blessings. The sixth angel sounded the trumpet and there was a voice from the horns of the golden altar which ordered to release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates. They were to set a cruel war at this very hour and day and month and year. The number of the mounted troops was two hundred million with sulfur and weapons of smoke to kill one third of mankind. After Job was refined, he became the warrior of intercession. He bore God's heart and was faithful and watchful. He interceded for the sinners and grabbed to save the souls. The daughters whom Job bore after his suffering were like the fighting warriors of the age who could overcome thousands of troops of Satan.

2.【God’s will triumphs and be abundant to enjoy longevity】16-17 Through bitter refinement and the journey of endurance in faith, the life of Job had became more perfect and mature. He had refined his old self and self-righteousness away and completely manifested God's glory. The challenge and attempt of Satan were thoroughly corrupted. God's will had finally succeeded! Thereafter Job lived a hundred and forty years and enjoyed long life full of testimony. He saw his children and their children to the fourth generation.

※【Still do not repent and doom to everlasting destruction】20-21 The rest of mankind still did not repent of the work of their hands. They did not stop worshiping demons and idols. Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts. Their result would be destruction. Job suffered innocently and endured till the end. He was refined by God. Not only his blessings on earth doubled, he also enjoyed the everlasting blessings in heaven and the glory of the kingdom. This shows the righteous does not suffer in vain and comes forth as gold. (Job 23:10) The wicked will receive their punishment. (Ps 149:7-9) God's will overcomes forever! Though the power of Satan like thousands of troops of evil spirit is furious, God rules over the history of mankind! Job suffered and was blessed represented the saints would be guarded in the great tribulation. They would be refined and enjoy the everlasting blessings in heaven!

**Ps 38 / Rev 12:8 Main theme: Confess and pursue goodness, the enemy cannot overcome me**

**-Pursue good / The enemy turns back**

(1)【Grieve for sin and plead God to stop His wrath】1-10 Due to my sinful folly, I sinned and did evil and provoked God to anger. I will mourn for my sins and may the Lord have compassion on me.

(2)【Do not plead men and not by oneself but trust in the Lord】11-15 My friends and companions avoid me and the enemies set their traps to harm my life. But I am like a deaf man and like a mute. I only pour out to the Lord.

(3)【Confess and pursue what is good】16-22 Do not be afraid that the enemies are vigorous and numerous. Only if I confess and repent, pursue what is good and pray and lift up to the Lord, then He will answer me. He will come quickly to save and help me. The enemies definitely cannot overcome me.

**Central point of the wheels: Confess and pursue good, be contrite and be blessed, overcome and avoid the plague**

Dear Lord, may You let me be refined, to be contrite and be remorseful, be filled with your love to intercede for others and be zealous to save men.