



# The Gospel According to Job

May 3: Job 17

Where Then Is My Hope?

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

“The real problem is not why some pious, humble, believing people suffer, but why some do not.” – C.S. Lewis

Why does God allow His own people to suffer?

What is the theology of the cross? What is the theology of glory?

What hope did Job find in chapter sixteen?

## Job 17:1-2

Can it be good to have a broken spirit?

**Psalm 51:17** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

How have others treated Job?

How well do you handle criticism?

## Job 17:3-5

For what is Job hoping?

<sup>NLT</sup> **Job 17:3** You must defend my innocence, O God, since no one else will stand up for me.

About whom is he speaking in verses 4 and 5?

**2 Samuel 15:31** And it was told David, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom." And David said, "O LORD, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."

## Job 17:6-7

How does Job see his condition at this point?

**Psalm 44:14** You have made us a byword among the nations, a laughingstock among the peoples.

## **Job 17:8-9**

How do the upright feel about Job?

What happens if we are innocent and have clean hands?

“A man may be called righteous, who has gone so far towards perfection in righteousness as to be very near it; and this we do not deny to have been in the power of many in this life, when they walk in it by faith.” – St. Augustine

## **Job 17:10-12**

Are the second-person pronouns singular or plural in verse ten? How do we know?

What does Job have left of his plans and desires?

## **Job 17:13-16**

What various terms for the *grave* does Job use in this passage?

How do the other translations render Sheol?

<sup>LXX</sup> **Job 17:13** For if I should endure, Hades will be my house, and in darkness my bedding will have been spread.

How does Job envision Sheol? Does it offer him relief?

**Jonah 2:5-6** The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God.

What happens to hope if this is the end for Job?

**Psalm 143:7-8** Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit. Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.

*May 10: Bildad and the Wicked: Job 18*