

53. Read Job 40:1-2. What did God ask Job, in verse 2? _____

_____ * Who was Job to argue with God? The Lord is putting Job in his place. Job, as a man, is merely the creation - not the Creator. He is a man - not God. God's words indicate that Job was contending (arguing) with God and reproving (blaming) Him. God demanded an answer from Job for his audacity.

54. Write verse 4, Job's answer. _____

* **Vile** means *worthless; sinful; low; of little comparative value; deserving to be despised.*

55. What did Job say that he would do with his hand? _____

* Job confessed he had sinned (he was vile) by trying to argue with God. Can we learn from Job's confession? Can we accept, while facing trials, God's authority over us, His guidance, and His superior knowledge that sees even into the future? We are being taught today by popular preachers, writers, and teachers to demand God to give us our desires, and even to command our will to be done, rather than His will. How angry God must be with man's arrogance. Man is like a stubborn, rebellious, five year old child, who has decided to run the house and issue commands to his father!

Job only wanted to know why God was allowing him to suffer, when he had faithfully served Him. Yet, he repented of his bold pride. Man does not command God! We are instructed instead to **submit to and obey His commandments to us!** See James 4:7 and read I John 5:2-3.

56. Read verse 5. Had Job decided to keep silent before God? _____ * There were no arguments remaining in him. He was man. God was God - a lesson Job learned, and we should also learn. Read and obey James 4:10.

57. Where did the voice of the Lord come from, according to verse 6? _____

58. What did the Lord ask Job, in verse 8, if he would do to God's judgment? _____

* When God makes a judgment (decision), man cannot disannul it (make it void). God made a decision, concerning Job's trial, in Job 1:12 + 2:6. Job questioned God's decision, to the extent that his desire was to approach God and argue his case. Read Job 23:3-7.

Job had listened to four men, expounding the prosperity message to him, and Job said himself, in Job 10:15, "I am full of confusion".

Job had lived a righteous life, yet was suffering physically, mentally, and emotionally. His heart was broken with the sudden death of all ten of his children and all but four of his servants. His possessions and his animals were gone. His relatives and nearly all of his friends had forsaken him. His three remaining "friends" accused him of deserving the tragedies that befell him, because of his wickedness. Job could no longer hear or find God.

If Job had been able to disannul God's judgment, he surely would have done it.

God puts us in a place that is often uncomfortable for us. But before rebelling against His decisions, remember Psalms 119:75: "I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me."

"Thy judgments are **right** ... Thou "in **faithfulness** has afflicted me ..."

These words are easy to read, and even to quote, when all is going well in our lives. They are far more difficult to quote, when we are going through a severe trial. How hard it must have been for Job, who suffered one tragedy after another!