

Job – Part 4

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I. Introduction.

- A. Topic: what to do when the roof falls in.
- B. God can bring order out of chaos if we follow some principles. (Job 23:1-9)

II. When the roof falls in what to ask.

- A. The wrong question to ask is, where is God?
- B. We should ask how we can sense the presence of God instead. (Acts 17)
- C. Ways to sense the presence of God.
 - 1. In beauty.
 - 2. In truth. (2 Peter 1:3-4)
 - 3. In human goodness.
 - 4. In human need.
 - 5. In times of suffering. (Psalm 62:8)
- D. The wrong question to ask is, why am I suffering? We should be careful to blame God or the Devil. (Deuteronomy 8:2; Galatians 6:7; Proverbs 19:3)
- E. Ask what has happened, what am I going to do about it and what lesson can I learn?

III. When the roof falls in what to believe.

- A. Believe that it could be worse.
- B. Believe that others have faced it and have gone through it. (1 Corinthians 10:13; John 16:33; Proverbs 24:10; 2 Timothy 3:12)
- C. Believe that God is sovereign.
- D. The sovereignty of God.
 - 1. God's permissive will is not different than his permissive will.
 - 2. If it is, then we could rightly blame God. (James 1)
 - 3. God has limited his sovereignty to the freewill of man by his own choice.
 - 4. On a tactical level, God gives us the right of choice.

E. Believe that God has our best interest at heart. (Jeremiah 29:11)

F. Believe that God can use this for his glory and my good. (Romans 8:28; Job 23:10; Ephesians 1:8)

1. The good is spiritual good.

2. The purpose is to daily become more like Jesus. (1 Peter 1:6-7; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-5; James 1:2-4; Isaiah 30:20; Romans 5:1-5)

G. Believe that you do not have to understand it all. (Proverbs 20:24)

H. Believe that there is hope. (Proverbs 23:18; Revelation 7:14; Psalm 30:5)

IV. When the roof falls in what to think.

A. Get the facts. (Proverbs 23:23)

B. Face the facts. (Proverbs 14:8)

C. Look at the worst thing that can possibly happen and face it.

D. Avoid excessive guilt. (1 John 1:9)

E. Think on God's faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

F. Look for the possible good. (Proverbs 15:15)

G. Think of what the outcome may be.

1. God may use these things to help others.

2. God may use them to purify us. (Isaiah 48:10)

3. God may use them to re-arrange our priorities. (Luke 14:33)

4. God may use it to temper us. (Hosea 7:8)

V. When the roof falls in what to do.

A. Don't panic.

B. Look to Jesus. (Matthew 17:8)

C. Delay all big decisions temporarily.

D. Get back into fellowship with God if you are out of it.

E. Hold fast if you are in fellowship with God.

F. Keep busy at something.

G. Give yourself to others.

H. Stay in close fellowship with those who love you.

I. Trust God and press on.

Application questions:

1. What are some wrong ways to think in tribulation? Why are they wrong?

2. What are things we can do to prepare to respond properly in tribulation?

3. What is the most important thing to believe in tribulation in your opinion?
