

Chapter 3:1-31:40 offers the solution to the riddle given by Job's three friends: you are suffering for sin; therefore, repent and your sufferings will vanish! In chapter 32:1-37:24, Elihu presents his solution to Job's riddle: you are undergoing a divine discipline of love to deter you from further sin; therefore, stop claiming innocence like the wicked do before G-d, and stop calling G-d's justice into question. G-d's solution finally appears in chps 38-41. In brief, G-d replies that to encounter G-d, whether in abasement or abundance, is enough and is worth everything. Then, in the epilogue, G-d 'restores what has been taken' (Yoel 2:25; Job 42:10f) and 'all things work together (co-operate) for good for those who love G-d and are called according to his purpose' (Ro 8:28). Have you ever had a Job experience? Our Moshiach did. Shliach Sha'ul did. Shliach Sha'ul seems to be talking about all true witnessing kadoshim in 2C chp 4. Can you give your edus (testimony) of faith in the form of a before-and-after Job experience so that G-d gets the glory and is presented as worth it all in the end? We will overcome the devil by the word of our testimony (Rv 12:11). There was once a minister who had a 'Job' experience. He was called on the carpet by his overseers, who accused him of heresy. Then his family deserted him and he lost his home. Then his friends came around and lectured him on not being a good family man. Then all the religious people avoided him. He even lost his ministry appointment and was left all alone. In all this he had done nothing wrong, but he held on to his integrity and

cried out to G-d for vindication. This minister waited for G-d to vindicate his innocence and to stop the mouths of his detractors. Satan was behind the whole plot, because it was the ministry of the man of G-d that was being unjustly discredited. After a long period of being put to the test, the L-rd restored everything that He had allowed to be taken from the man of G-d. In fact, the man of G-d received back from the L-rd his ministry appointment, etc. He even received back more than he lost! Then he learned by experience what he had believed already by faith: that G-d is worth everything and is worth losing everything for. Have you ever had a Job experience of dying to self for Moshiach and coming back to life with 'all these things added unto you as well'? Could you tell your story and let it minister in kiruv outreach for the Moshiach, using the theme of Job to show how G-d proved Himself real to you at the end of your struggle of faith? What is a theodicy? See chapter 36:2. What is the two-tier structure of reality presented in Job? How is it like the structure of reality presented in Revelation and the rest of Scripture? What is a theophany? See 38:1-42:6. Do you see how religious functionaries who earn outlandish salaries might bring HaSatan's accusation against themselves (1:9)? Look at chapter 5. Eliphaz infers that Job is a fool (5:2) whom G-d is correcting (5:17). He tries to comfort Job but wounds him with false accusations. Job is pictured more and more as a kicked-down sage, who is a type of Moshiach, and Job's wisdom is that which comes

from suffering in the flesh (1K 4:1). Like our Moshiach, Job prays for his enemies in 42:8. Shliach Sha'ul says, 'All men forsook me.' Job's question in 9:2 is answered in Habakkuk 2:4. Look at 9:33 and 16:18-21. Is not our Moshiach our defender, our paraclete [a friend of the accused person called to speak in his favor] against Satan's accusations? See Job 31:35, 1 Yn 2:1; Job 33:23-26. Job 14:14 is answered by Job 19:25-26. Remember the Go'el from the book of Ruth? This word is found in Job 19:25. Job 38:33 is a good point for Besuras Hageulah rejecters or for proud scientists who accept the g-dless cosmogony of evolution instead of the book of Genesis properly interpreted in the light of other Scripture. The whole section starting from chapter 38 reveals the weakness, ignorance, unworthiness and stupidity of puny man so prone to arrogance. To sum up, in the book of Job the hero is presented as the ideal man of wisdom literature, a sage, prosperous, blessed of G-d and honored of men, one who is upright in character and on no account can be tempted to curse G-d, so great is his wise fear of the Almighty. A crisis occurs in Job's life that leads him to seek G-d in a deeper way. So extreme is Job's situation that nothing less than a personal encounter with G-d will suffice. Job's despair brings him to the point of discovering that philosophy and religion are amal m'nachamim "miserable comforters" (16:2). He needs to know G-d personally, nothing less will satisfy the gnawing yearning within his soul. This is the promise of Jer.31:31 New Covenant, knowing Hashem.