



*S*OVEREIGNTY, *S*UFFERING,  
AND *S*YMPATHY  
A Thematic Study in Job

**THE SOVEREIGN LORD SPEAKS**



*Why is it important to be a good listener?*

*Tell of a time when your listening was less than stellar?*

IN HIS HAND  
**SUFFERING** **SOVEREIGNTY** **SYMPATHY**  
"In His hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind."  
Job 12:10

# THE SOVEREIGN LORD SPEAKS

After 35 chapters of dialogue, God speaks

“And the some seventy to eighty questions God...addresses to Job in chapters 38-41 are staggering in their depth of penetration, and the number of spheres over which he claims to exercise his sovereignty is awesome (see Job 42:2).”

(Robert Reymond, *A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith*, 358)

SUFFERING

SOVEREIGNTY

SYMPATHY

*"In His hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind."*

Job 12:10

# ASSESSMENT OF JOB'S FRIENDS

The damage done

13:4-5

16:2

19:2-3

26:2-3

What do these verses teach us about how and how not to counsel others?

IN HIS HAND  
*SUFFERING* **SOVEREIGNTY** *SYMPATHY*  
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# ASSESSMENT OF JOB'S FRIENDS

The Lord's rebuke

*“...My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends, because you have not spoken of Me what is right as My servant Job has.” (42:7, NASB)*

*“...you sinned, you and your two friends, because you [plural] did not speak what is true before Me, as My servant Job has.” (42:7, CV translation of LXX)*

*SUFFERING* *SOVEREIGNTY* *SYMPATHY*  
“In His hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.”  
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# ASSESSMENT OF JOB'S FRIENDS

**WLC Q. 113.** What are the sins forbidden in the third commandment?

**A.** ...murmuring and quarreling at, curious prying into, and misapplying of God's decrees and providences; misinterpreting, misapplying, or any way perverting the Word, or any part of it...

Their repentance and restoration **42:8-9**

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# ASSESSMENT OF JOB

Rebuke, repentance, and restoration

38:2

42:3-6

42:10-17

Job's bitter pill

7:11; cf. Jonah 3:10-4:3, 11

God's wisdom and goodness

30:20-21

7:20b

*SUFFERING* *SOVEREIGNTY* *SYMPATHY*  
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