

TODAY: The story of Job forces us to confront a God we cannot always understand; like Job, we search for ways to relate to God in moments when we do not understand.

Job finds himself _____ in this moment of struggle

option one — Job can decide that _____

Job's real struggle:

option two — Job can decide that _____, and
Job is _____

gospel story depends on God _____ what only
God _____ by God's _____ even when nobody
else _____

Job is not offered an _____ his moment of
struggle; Job is beginning to find a _____ his
moment of struggle

The God Who Baffles Us



Job 9:22–24 (NIV)

²² It is all the same; that is why I say, ‘He destroys both the blameless and the wicked.’ ²³ When a scourge brings sudden death, he mocks the despair of the innocent. ²⁴ When a land falls into the hands of the wicked, he blindfolds its judges. If it is not he, then who is it?

Job 28:12–23 (NIV)

¹² But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell? ¹³ No mortal comprehends its worth; it cannot be found in the land of the living. ¹⁴ The deep says, “It is not in me”; the sea says, “It is not with me.” ¹⁵ It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed out in silver. ¹⁶ It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir, with precious onyx or lapis lazuli. ¹⁷ Neither gold nor crystal can compare with it, nor can it be had for jewels of gold. ¹⁸ Coral and jasper are not worthy of mention; the price of wisdom is beyond rubies. ¹⁹ The topaz of Cush cannot compare with it; it cannot be bought with pure gold. ²⁰ Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? ²¹ It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds in the sky. ²² Destruction and Death say, “Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.” ²³ God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells,

Job 31:16–23 (NIV)

¹⁶ “If I have denied the desires of the poor or let the eyes of the widow grow weary, ¹⁷ if I have kept my bread to myself, not sharing it with the fatherless— ¹⁸ but from my youth I reared them as a father would, and from my birth I guided the widow— ¹⁹ if I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing, or the needy without garments, ²⁰ and their hearts did not bless me for warming them with the fleece from my sheep, ²¹ if I have raised my hand against the fatherless, knowing that I had influence in court, ²² then let my arm fall from the shoulder, let it be broken off at the joint. ²³ For I dreaded destruction from God, and for fear of his splendor I could not do such things.

Job 31:35–37 (NIV)

³⁵ (“Oh, that I had someone to hear me! I sign now my defense—let the Almighty answer me; let my accuser put his indictment in writing. ³⁶ Surely I would wear it on my shoulder, I would put it on like a crown. ³⁷ I would give him an account of my every step; I would present it to him as to a ruler.)

The God Who Baffles Us

Job 9:22-24; 28:12-23; 31:16-23, 35-37



Understanding the Bible:

What is the problem being expressed in this Bible passage?

How does God show up in this Bible Passage?

What are some of the things that are compared to wisdom in today's Bible passage?

My favorite song today:

Things I will pray for this week:

Today's Bible Passage: Job 28:12-23

(Can you find the highlighted words?)

F G J D B A D O L S F M C
 E O E V N D W A U P O N O
 J M W T N W E N O D U L R
 G D E A D R L E S U N P A
 N S L D A O L I P F D M L
 J A S P E R W T F C E O A
 G B M I R W B H G T R R Z
 C O M P R E H E N D S T U
 C U L V G P C R Y S T A L
 A G C D E E R I S O A L I
 N H J M E N T I O N N S V
 N T G U R R P C C U D D I
 O P H I R A F I N E S T N
 T C Z J L P I O N Y X Y G

But where can **wisdom** be **found**? Where does understanding **dwell**? No **mortal comprehends** its worth; it **cannot be found** in the **land** of the **living**. The **deep** says, "It is not in me"; the sea says, "It is not with me." It **cannot be bought** with the **finest gold**, nor can its **price** be

weighed out in silver. It **cannot be bought** with the **gold** of **Ophir**, with **precious onyx** or **lapis lazuli**. **Neither gold** nor **crystal** can **compare** with it, nor can it be had for **jewels** of **gold**. **Coral** and **jasper** are not worthy of **mention**; the **price** of **wisdom** is **beyond** rubies. The topaz of Cush **cannot compare** with it; it **cannot be bought** with pure **gold**. Where then does **wisdom** come from? Where does understanding **dwell**? It is hidden from the eyes of every **living** thing, concealed even from the birds in the sky. Destruction and Death say, "Only a rumor of it has reached our ears." God **understands** the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells.