

# The book of JOB

-----GENE KROEKER-----

**THIS** is sometimes a difficult book to understand. First we wonder at the permission Satan received from God to violently take away all that belonged to Job. After all, Job was a perfect and upright man, who turned from evil, whom God commended. And God had blessed him with riches and honor, and a wonderful family. But the Lord used His servant for His own glory and also set a precedent for all who followed Job. Can you imagine how much good this account has been to all those saints who have suffered since? Job has been a great encouragement to God's people in all ages!

Poor Job took a blow from Satan that few others could even imagine. Think of it! He lost all of his possessions at one time! One could compare it to their house being burnt to the ground. But it's harder to comprehend that seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred donkey's which were scattered abroad in different fields, were all lost at the same time! What's worse is that Job had a "great household" as well. His dearest and most valuable possession of all were his ten children, whom he also lost at the same time.

Now that would be hard to endure! But Job successfully endures this heavy trial, and maintains his integrity before God. Satan is defeated, who boasted that Job would curse God. However, Satan is not through with Job yet, and God gives him permission to afflict Job Himself. Can you imagine the agony this poor man had to suffer? Both mental and physical pain tormented him.

[ The Lord used His servant for  
His own glory ]

One of the highlights of all this to me, is when three of Job's friends come to visit him. They were not invited, but came of their own accord. They came with the purpose to mourn with and comfort Job. They had committed themselves to remain with him until the end- not just a quick visit! They sat down on the ground with him in his affliction and no one said a word for seven days. Wow! How many of us would do that?

Anyway, the rest of the book is full of wisdom and counsel. It is well worth studying for ourselves and to help us minister to others. ■

# BIBLE CONFERENCE

CATHY WATSON

For the past six years the Mariner's Reformed Baptist Church meeting in North Bend on the Oregon Coast has held Bible conferences on a Saturday ending with a worship service on Sunday morning. Sovereign Grace Church in Bend in Central Oregon is planning a similar conference on Saturday, May 7, 2011 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. A light lunch will be served. The speakers will conclude their topics at a worship service on Sunday, May 8th for those whose schedules permit. Please make a note on your calendar regarding this Bible Conference. Our speakers will be Don Fowler, teaching elder at Mariner's Reformed Baptist Church of North Bend and Jeff Crippen, Pastor of Christ Reformation Church in Tillamook, OR. Further information will follow at the end of March. The topics for our study will be:

1. The Doctrine of the Antithesis: This carefully notes Biblically assigned contrasts such as those that exist between light and darkness, believer and unbeliever, church and world, etc. The doctrine is initially introduced in Genesis 3:15 and is developed in detail in numerous other passages of Scripture. The doctrine of the antithesis is indispensable for a right understanding of Biblical theology in general, and specifically the nature of man, the supremacy of Scripture, the worship of the Church, the evangelistic enterprise, and for the defense of the faith.
2. The Temple – The grand theme of the Bible: God's plan of redemption in Christ is the story of the intention of God the Father, through His Son and by His Spirit, to dwell among His people. Every Christian urgently needs to understand this great plan to see "The Father's House" (heaven) in much greater clarity, and thereby be enabled to let go of this present world which is passing away. We look forward to your joining with us.

## FAVORITE recipes

### Roman-Style Chicken

SHEILA GROSSMAN

- 4 skinless chicken breast halves, with ribs (I like to use all chicken thighs instead)
- 2 skinless chicken thighs, with bones
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus 1 teaspoon
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus 1 teaspoon
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 yellow bell pepper, sliced
- 3 ounces prosciutto, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 (15-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1/2 cup white wine (or chicken broth)
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
- 1 teaspoon fresh oregano leaves
- 1/2 cup chicken stock
- 2 tablespoons capers (can be omitted)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves

Season the chicken with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. In a heavy, large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium heat. When the oil is hot, cook the chicken until browned on both sides. Remove from the pan and set aside.

Keeping the same pan over medium heat, add the peppers and prosciutto and cook until the peppers have browned and the prosciutto is crisp, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add the tomatoes, wine, and herbs. Using a wooden spoon, scrape the browned bits off the bottom of the pan. Return the chicken to the pan, add the stock, and bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer, covered, until the chicken is cooked through, about 20 to 30 minutes.

If serving immediately, add the capers and the parsley. Stir to combine and serve. If making ahead of time, transfer the chicken and sauce to a storage container, cool, and refrigerate. The next day, reheat the chicken to a simmer over medium heat. Stir in the capers and the parsley and serve.

The Discipline of Grace

By Jerry Bridges

## RECOMMENDED READING

JESSICA SMITH

A great book that I have recommended to many is *The Discipline of Grace* by Jerry Bridges. Although he is a modern theologian and writer, Bridges takes those old gospel truths that have been deliberated throughout church history by those great men of God my dad likes to call the "Old Divines" and puts those old gospel truths into practical Christian living in modern English. Although it is easy to read, this book is not light weight. It will hit you hard but in such a way that gives you hope and encouragement.

This book gives ways to recognize the need for repentance and practical ways to repent of sin. It all centers on how to apply the Gospel to your day to day living. If you have a hard time following theological books, don't worry. The book is separated by chapters and sections that allow you to go slow without getting lost. I believe it could change your life if you are currently struggling with reoccurring sin in your life

CATHY WATSON

## VALENTINES DAY QUIZ

See if you know who these couples are, some are from the Bible, some are not.

1. They met at a well. She was the boss' daughter. He was a fugitive from the law, a murderer.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_
2. It was an arranged marriage. She did not meet him until his father's servant brought her home.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_
3. This couple met through a Christian website. He wrote to her first. Turns out they lived within 10 minutes of each other and had mutual friends, yet had never met. They still exchange Valentine cards.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_
4. It was an arranged marriage. They never met until his father's servant brought her home.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_
5. Another couple also met at a well. She was a shepherdess. He was a runaway. It was love at first sight.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_
6. He was the boy around the corner. They went to the same school and church. Their first date was her class dance, but don't ask him about it, because he doesn't remember.  
His name \_\_\_\_\_  
Her name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Moses and Zipporah; 2. Isaac and Rebekah; 3. Todd and Sheila; 4. Jacob and Rachel; 5. Hosea and Gomer; 6. Bill and Cathy