

# THE BOOK OF JOB

Ch 22-27 Case Dismissed



# THE RECIPROCITY PRINCIPLE (A DEEPLY INGRAINED ASSUMPTION)

**HUMAN ACTION**

**GOD'S JUSTICE**

**DO GOOD**



**BLESSING/BENEFIT**

**DO WRONG**



**PUNISHMENT &  
DISASTER**

**GOD'S JUSTICE**



**TENSION**

**RECIPROCITY  
PRINCIPLE**

**JOB'S  
INNOCENCE**

Job 22

<sup>1</sup> Then Eliphaz the Temanite replied: <sup>2</sup> “Can a person do anything to help God? Can even a wise person be helpful to him? <sup>3</sup> Is it any advantage to the Almighty if you are righteous? Would it be any gain to him if you were perfect?”

<sup>4</sup> Is it because you're so pious that he accuses you and brings judgment against you? <sup>5</sup> No, it's because of your wickedness! There's no limit to your sins

...<sup>6</sup> “For example, you must have lent money to your friend and demanded clothing as security. Yes, you stripped him to the bone.<sup>7</sup> You must have refused water for the thirsty and food for the hungry.<sup>8</sup> You probably think the land belongs to the powerful and only the privileged have a right to it!<sup>9</sup> You must have sent widows away empty-handed and crushed the hopes of orphans.

... <sup>12</sup> “God is so great—higher than the heavens, higher than the farthest stars. <sup>13</sup> But you reply, ‘That’s why God can’t see what I am doing! How can he judge through the thick darkness? <sup>14</sup> For thick clouds swirl about him, and he cannot see us. He is way up there, walking on the vault of heaven.’

... <sup>27</sup> You will pray to him, and he will hear you, and you will fulfill your vows to him. <sup>28</sup> You will succeed in whatever you choose to do, and light will shine on the road ahead of you. <sup>29</sup> If people are in trouble and you say, 'Help them,' God will save them.



## Job 23

<sup>1</sup> Then Job spoke again: <sup>2</sup> “My complaint today is still a bitter one, and I try hard not to groan aloud.

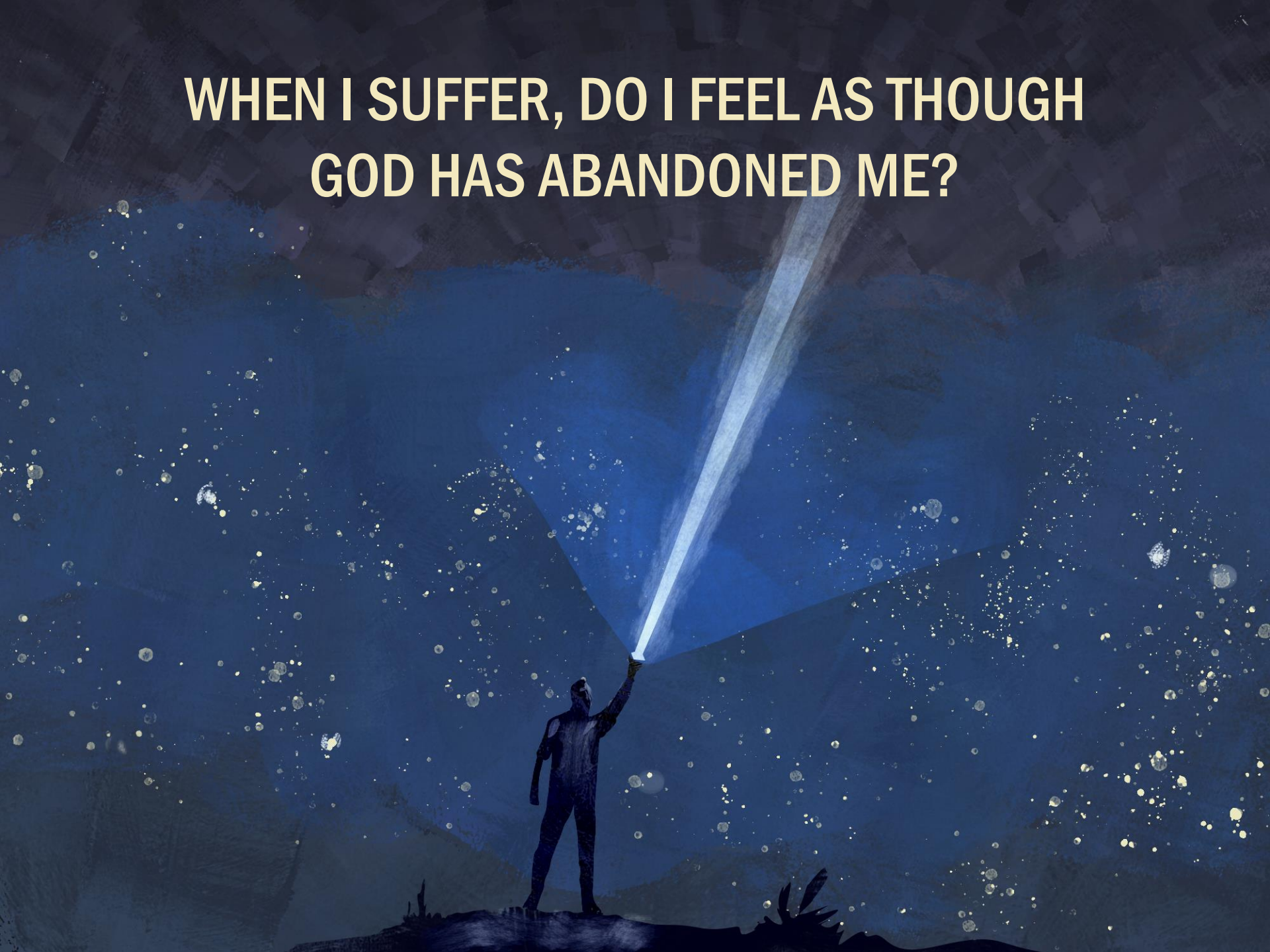
<sup>3</sup> If only I knew where to find God, I would go to his court.

...<sup>8</sup> I go east, but he is not there. I go west, but I cannot find him. <sup>9</sup> I do not see him in the north, for he is hidden. I look to the south, but he is concealed.

## Job 24

<sup>1</sup> “Why doesn’t the Almighty bring the wicked to judgment? Why must the godly wait for him in vain? <sup>2</sup> Evil people steal land by moving the boundary markers. They steal livestock and put them in their own pastures. <sup>3</sup> They take the orphan’s donkey and demand the widow’s ox as security for a loan.

**WHEN I SUFFER, DO I FEEL AS THOUGH  
GOD HAS ABANDONED ME?**



1 Peter 1

<sup>6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. <sup>7</sup> These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold.

## Job 25

<sup>1</sup> Then Bildad the Shuhite replied: <sup>2</sup> “God is powerful and dreadful. He enforces peace in the heavens. <sup>3</sup> Who is able to count his heavenly army? Doesn’t his light shine on all the earth? <sup>4</sup> How can a mortal be innocent before God? Can anyone born of a woman be pure? <sup>5</sup> God is more glorious than the moon; he shines brighter than the stars. <sup>6</sup> In comparison, people are maggots; we mortals are mere worms.”

Job 26

<sup>1</sup> Then Job spoke again: <sup>2</sup> “How you have helped the powerless! How you have saved the weak! <sup>3</sup> How you have enlightened my stupidity! What wise advice you have offered! <sup>4</sup> Where have you gotten all these wise sayings? Whose spirit speaks through you?.

...<sup>7</sup> God stretches the northern sky over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing. <sup>8</sup> He wraps the rain in his thick clouds, and the clouds don't burst with the weight. <sup>9</sup> He covers the face of the moon, shrouding it with his clouds.

...<sup>14</sup> These are just the beginning of all that he does, merely a whisper of his power. Who, then, can comprehend the thunder of his power?"

Job 27

<sup>1</sup> Job continued speaking: <sup>2</sup> “I vow by the living God, who has taken away my rights, by the Almighty who has embittered my soul— <sup>3</sup> As long as I live, while I have breath from God, <sup>4</sup> my lips will speak no evil, and my tongue will speak no lies. <sup>5</sup> I will never concede that you are right; I will defend my integrity until I die. <sup>6</sup> I will maintain my innocence without wavering. My conscience is clear for as long as I live.

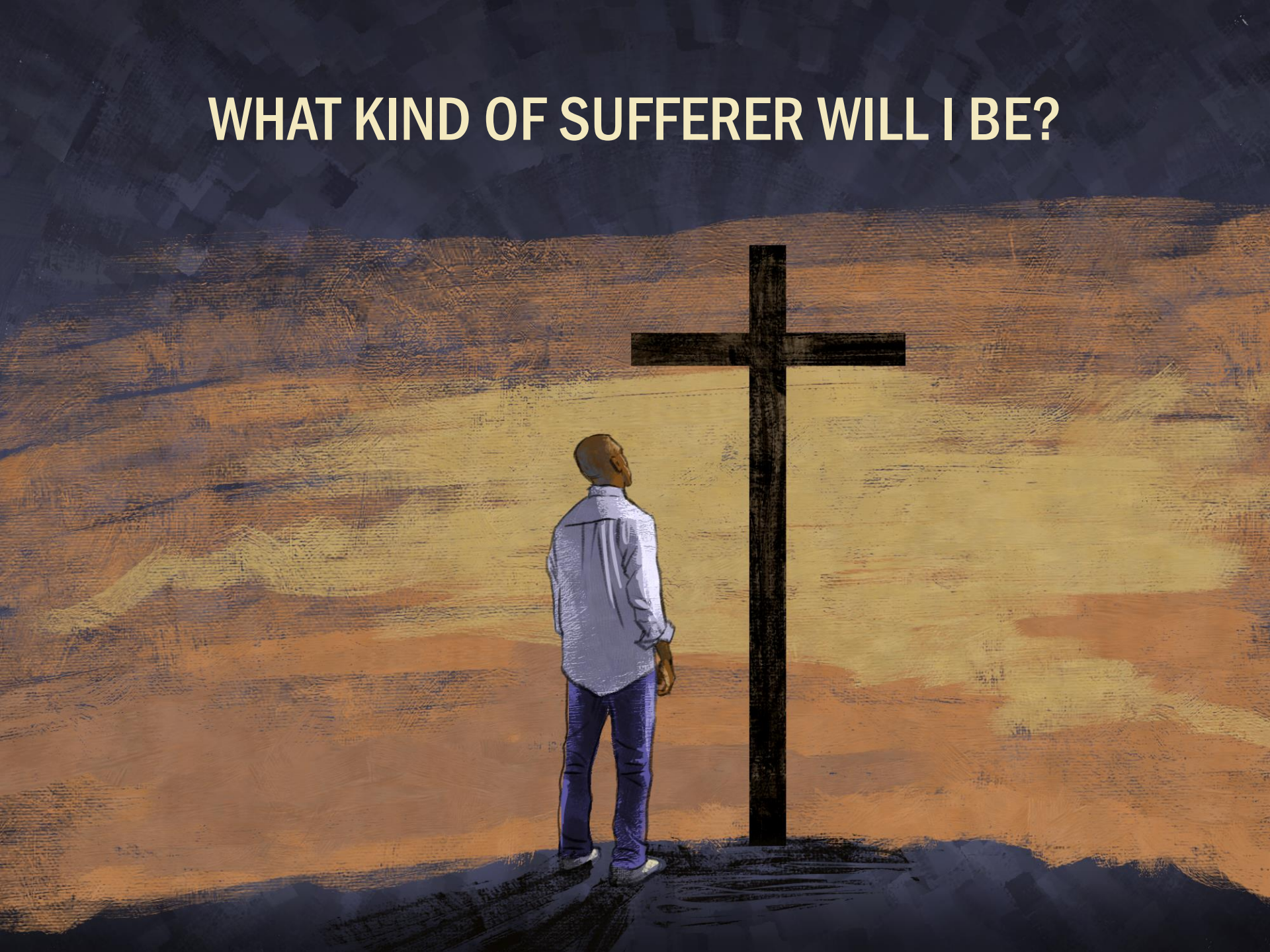


**7 “May my enemy be punished like the wicked, my adversary like those who do evil. 8 For what hope do the godless have when God cuts them off and takes away their life? 9 Will God listen to their cry when trouble comes upon them?”**

HOW DO I DISCERN RIGHTEOUSNESS?



**WHAT KIND OF SUFFERER WILL I BE?**



THE BOOK OF  
JOB

