

# It's a job to be Job!

## P S A L M 73

*Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.*

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### LESSON 13

1. What truth, verse, or insight from last week's study of **Job 11-14** was helpful to you?
  
2. **Psalm 73** was written by Asaph, one of the leaders of David's Levitical choirs. Before reading it, pray and ask God to guide you with His counsel. Give one way that this Psalm aligns with Job's study so far.
  
3. a) In **V1**, what is Asaph's comment about God, and for whom is it intended?
  
- b) In the context of Psalm 73, what do you think it means to be "pure in heart"?
  
4. What do the following passages say about being pure in heart?  
**Psalm 51:9-10** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Matthew 5:8** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Acts 15:8-9** \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. a) From **V2**, put into your own words what Asaph was saying.
  
- b) What in **V3** was causing Asaph to turn his eyes away from God?
  
6. List all the things Asaph saw around him that he found alluring about the wicked people in **V4-5**, and how does that relate to **Job 21:7-9**?

7. Describe how the wicked conduct themselves in:

**V6** \_\_\_\_\_

**V7** \_\_\_\_\_

**V8** \_\_\_\_\_

**V9** \_\_\_\_\_

8. What do you think it means that “people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance” in **V10**?

9. a) In your opinion, what do you think the wicked people are wondering about God in **V11**?

b) Given Asaph’s statement in **V1**, what is the obvious wrestle in **V12**?

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10. According to **V13-14** what is Asaph feeling and expressing?

11. a) Read **V15-17**, how can we change our focus when God’s ways are not making sense to us?

b) What do you think it meant for Asaph to enter the sanctuary of God in **V17**? What can it mean for us today?

12. After Asaph went into God’s presence, what did he realize about the destiny of the wicked (**V18-20, 27**)?

13. What is the “big picture” contrast of how Asaph described himself before entering God’s sanctuary (**V21-22**) and after (**V23-24**)?

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14. In the beginning of the Psalm (**V2**), Asaph nearly lost his footing with God. What certainties have come out of his experience in **V25-26**? How do these certainties help you?
15. a) The Psalm starts and ends with the statement "But as for me..." (**V2 & V28**). How do each of these "but as for me" statements resonate with you currently?
- It is good to be near God
  - I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge
  - I will tell of all Your deeds
- b) When it feels like "**it's a job to be Job**," Asaph, or you, which verse from **Psalm 73** will you treasure and why?
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### DIGGING DEEPER

Though Asaph struggled with wrong desires, he concluded, "Whom have I in heaven but You? And earth has nothing I desire besides You" (**V25**).

1. What do the following verses teach us about desires?

**Genesis 4:7** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proverbs 19:22a** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 4:19** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 8:5** \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Timothy 6:9** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Desires determine the path we choose to take. What do the following verses reveal when we choose to stand close to God or not?

**Psalm 37:4** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 1:24** \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Timothy 4:3** \_\_\_\_\_

**1 John 2:17** \_\_\_\_\_

3. a) Select and write your own Suggested Memory Verse from **Psalm 73:23-28**.

- b) Form a prayer based on this Lesson.

