

Job: a God-Pleasing Life



- is my life pleasing to God? ¹

Sexual Purity | Pure heart & life (31:1-12)

- no lust (vv. 1-3) ²
- God sees (vv. 4-8)
- no adultery (vv. 9-12)

Social Justice | Just treatment of others (31:13-23)

- no injustice to servants (vv. 13-15) ³
- no neglect of the needy (vv. 16-20)
- no violence against the defenseless
(vv. 21-23)


True Worship | Worshipping God alone (31:24-28)

- no money as God (vv. 24-25) ⁴
- no worshipping created things (vv. 26-28) ⁵

Radical Generosity | Being generous to all (31:29-34)

- no revenge on enemies (vv. 29-30) ⁶
- no neglect of hospitality (vv. 31-32)
- no hiding of sin (vv. 33-34)

Conclusion | Challenge to God (31:35-40)

- let God answer me (vv. 35-37) ⁷
- let creation bear witness (vv. 38-40)
 - ☞ "Can you tell who it is?" 
 - o looks nothing like me
 - o looks something like me
 - o looks very much like me

¹ Hebrews 11:6; James 2:26

² Mark 7:21-23; Matthew 5:8, 27-30;

³ Proverbs 22:2; 14:31; 17:5; 29:13; Malachi 2:10.

⁴ Matthew 6:19, 24

⁵ In the ancient world where often pagan idols were kissed (1 Kings 19:18; Hosea 13:2), when the sun & moon were seen as gods (astral deities), worshippers would extend their self-kissed hand upwards towards these objects of worship.

⁶ Luke 23:34; Proverbs 24:17-18

⁷ 1 John 2:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:1

Job 31

"I made a covenant with my eyes
not to look lustfully at a young woman.
2 For what is our lot from God above,
our heritage from the Almighty on high?
3 Is it not ruin for the wicked,
disaster for those who do wrong?
4 Does he not see my ways
and count my every step?
5 "If I have walked with falsehood
or my foot has hurried after deceit—
6 let God weigh me in honest scales
and he will know that I am blameless—
7 if my steps have turned from the path,
if my heart has been led by my eyes,
or if my hands have been defiled,
8 then may others eat what I have sown,
and may my crops be uprooted.
9 "If my heart has been enticed by a woman,
or if I have lurked at my neighbor's door,
10 then may my wife grind another man's grain,
and may other men sleep with her.
11 For that would have been wicked,
a sin to be judged.
12 It is a fire that burns to Destruction;
it would have uprooted my harvest.
13 "If I have denied justice to any of my servants,
whether male or female,
when they had a grievance against me,
14 what will I do when God confronts me?
What will I answer when called to account?
15 Did not he who made me in the womb make
them? Did not the same one form us both
within our mothers?
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.
24 "If I have put my trust in gold
or said to pure gold, 'You are my security,'
25 if I have rejoiced over my great wealth,
the fortune my hands had gained,
26 if I have regarded the sun in its radiance
or the moon moving in splendor,
27 so that my heart was secretly enticed
and my hand offered them a kiss of homage,
28 then these also would be sins to be judged,
for I would have been unfaithful to God on
high.
29 "If I have rejoiced at my enemy's misfortune or
gloated over the trouble that came to him—
30 I have not allowed my mouth to sin
by invoking a curse against their life—
31 if those of my household have never said,
'Who has not been filled with Job's meat?'—
32 but no stranger had to spend the night in the
street, for my door was always open to the
traveler—
33 if I have concealed my sin as people do,
by hiding my guilt in my heart
34 because I so feared the crowd
and so dreaded the contempt of the clans
that I kept silent and would not go outside—
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.)—
38 "if my land cries out against me
and all its furrows are wet with tears,
39 if I have devoured its yield without payment
or broken the spirit of its tenants,
40 then let briars come up instead of wheat
and stinkweed instead of barley."

The words of Job are ended.