

BIBLE ENDINGS

(Part 3)

Introduction

- 1) **Proverbs 14:12; 16:25** – “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its *end* is the way of death”
- 2) Earthly people, things, and events are temporary – come and go, here today, gone tomorrow
- 3) The Bible records the various endings of people, places, things, events, etc.
 - a) Important lessons will be learned as we continue to study various **Bible endings**

I) **THE REWARD FOR JOB’S FAITH (Job 42:12)**

- A) The story and book of Job ends on a happy note after intense suffering
 - 1) Job spoke what was right (42:7); God had accepted him (v. 9)
 - 2) Prayed (interceded) for his friends and was greatly rewarded (vv. 10-17)
 - 3) Job had faith in his heart from the beginning (1:20-22; 2:9-10; 5:17; 6:24; 13:15; 23:10-14)
- B) God rewards those endure sufferings with strengthening faith (Jas. 5:10-11)

II) **WHEN AN END IS BETTER (Eccl. 7:8)**

- A) The end of something is better when it results in reflection, understanding, and improvement of one’s life and situation (Eccl. 7:2)
- B) The end of the righteous is better than the wicked (Num. 23:10; Psalms 73:12, 17-18; Prov. 14:32)
 - 1) Always better to remain faithful and endure until the end knowing that all problems and difficulties shall pass, but we must stand strong (Psalms 119:33, 112)

III) **FALL OF A MIGHTY KINGDOM (Dan. 5:26)**

- A) The night of Belshazzar’s party feast, the kingdom of Babylon came to an end
 - 1) Found lacking, and given to others (Medes and Persians)
 - 2) God brings nations to their end, according to their ways (vv. 18-23; Amos 8:2)
- B) Modern nations and leaders would do well to heed the words of the one true God

IV) **GOD HAS THE FINAL WORD (Jonah 4:9-11)**

- A) The book of Jonah ends rather abruptly – God speaks and it is over
 - 1) Jonah angry about God sparing Nineveh and the withering of his shade plant (4:1-9)
 - 2) Yet, Jonah did not show the same concern for Nineveh that he did for the plant
 - 3) God had last word in the story of Job (chs. 38-41)
- B) God should have the last word in our lives – His will prevails over all things (Col. 3:17)

V) **COMPLETION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES (Mal. 4:5-6)**

- A) The book of Malachi and the Old Testament end on a note of “to be continued”
 - 1) Prophets spoke of something better to come (Isa. 9:6-7; Jer. 31:31; Mic. 4:1; Joel 2:28; Amos 9:11; Dan. 2:44; Ezek. 37:24-26; Zech. 6:12-13; 13:1; Mal. 3:1)
- B) The Law of Moses brought men to Christ (Gal. 3:24-25; 2 Tim. 3:15; Rom. 15:4)
 - 1) It still points to Christ as its fulfillment and completion (Matt. 5:17; Jn. 5:39; Rom. 10:4)

Conclusion

These “endings” help remind us that trusting God is always wise and He should have the final word in our lives. Let us remember to end well by living faithfully with God. “But he who endures to the **end** shall be saved” (Matt. 24:13).