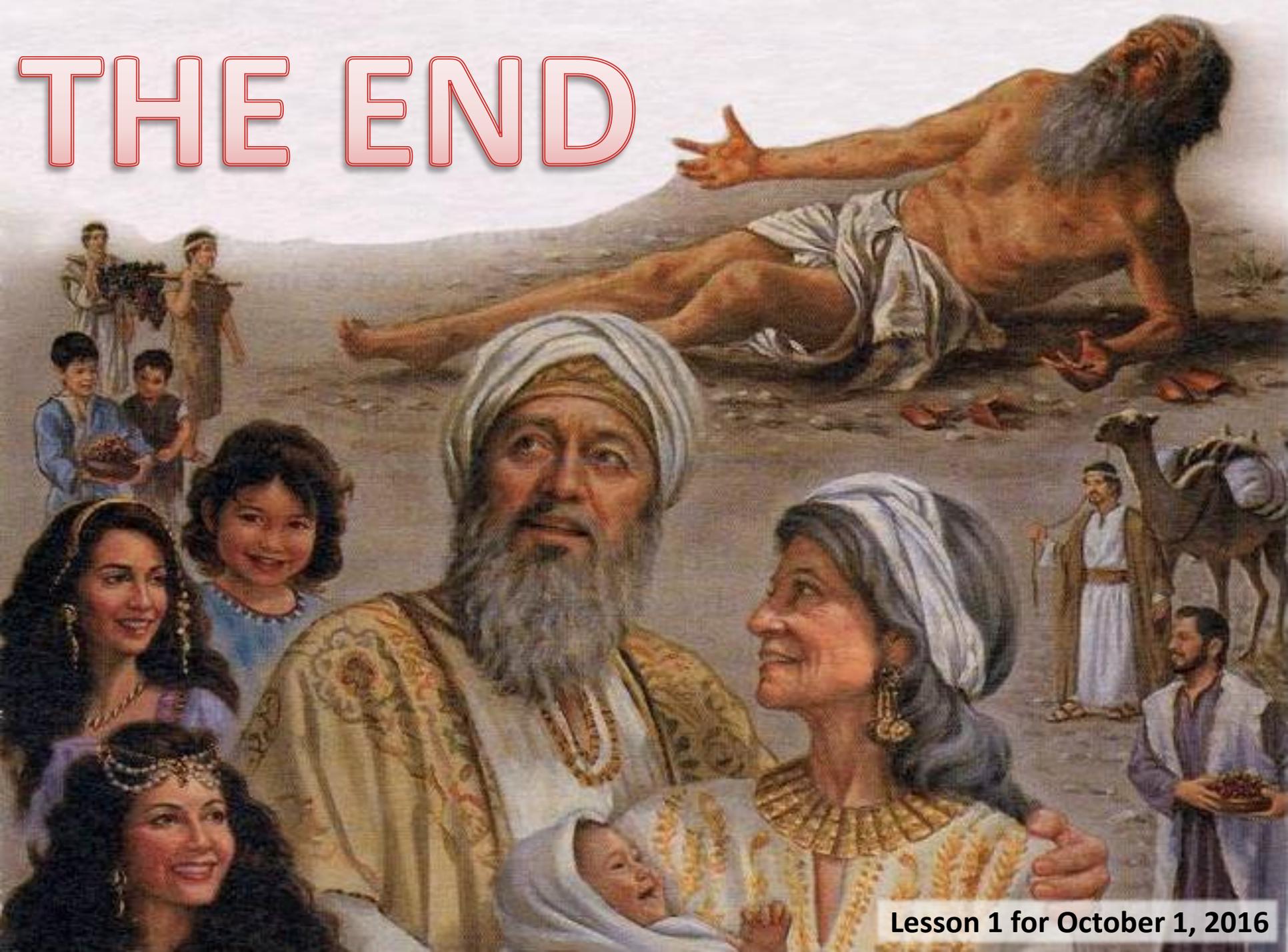
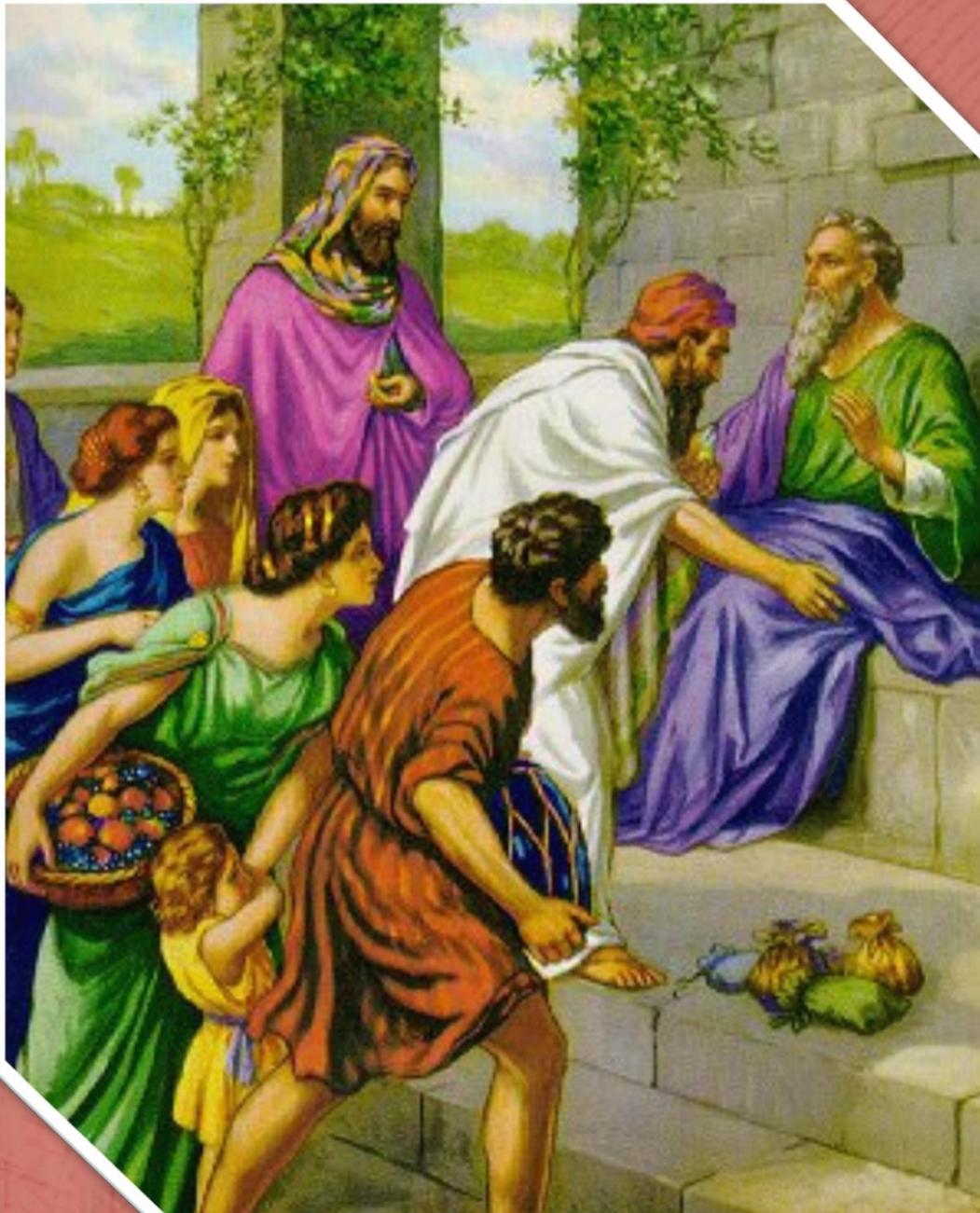


THE END



Lesson 1 for October 1, 2016



Job's tribulation was great, but it came to an end. How did it end? What lesson can we learn from it?

✿ Endings:

✿ Happy endings.

✿ Unhappy endings.

✿ Restorations:

✿ Partial restoration.

✿ Complete restoration.

✿ The end of endings.

HAPPY ENDINGS

“And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before... So Job died, old and full of days.” (Job 42:10, 17)

**First
Job 1:3**

7 sons and 3 daughters

7,000 sheep

3,000 camels

500 yoke of oxen

500 female donkeys

**Finally
Job 42:10-17**

7 sons and 3 daughters

14,000 sheep

6,000 camels

1,000 yoke of oxen

1,000 female donkeys

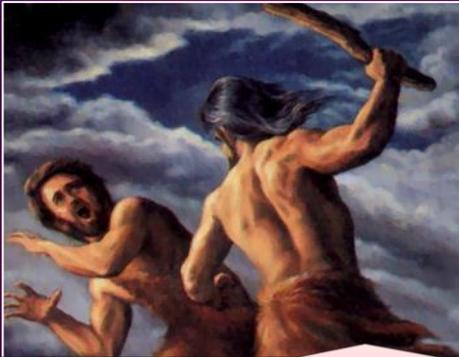


Job ended with twice of everything he had before. In addition, his daughters were the most beautiful on earth. He met his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren and he lived 140 years more to enjoy everything! Nevertheless, Job finally died.

UNHAPPY ENDINGS

"Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; for the future of that man is peace." (Psalm 37:37)

Does every upright person live a happy ending? Let's study the next examples:



ABEL
Genesis 4:8



ELI
1 Samuel 4:18



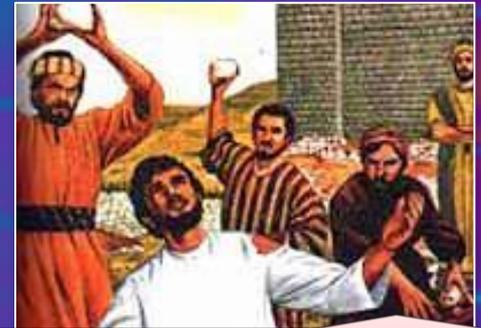
URIAH
2 Samuel 11:17



JOSIAH
2 Chronicles 35:22-24



JOHN THE BAPTIST
Matthew 14:10



STEPHEN
Acts 7:59-60

We may live a happy or unhappy ending in this live, but the end is the same for everyone; death. Why is the future of the upright man peace?



PARTIAL RESTORATION

“Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.” (1 Corinthians 4:5)

At the end of Job’s tribulation, he was restored to a better state than before.

Nevertheless, that was not a complete restoration. He still remembered the children he lost and the terrible experience he had lived...

No matter what we have lived through. Like Job’s, our restoration will never be complete in this life. There will always be questions without answer and unhealed wounds.

However, God has promised that He will “bring to light the hidden things of darkness.” He will restore us completely in the future.



COMPLETE RESTORATION

"And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." (Daniel 2:44)

The Bible explains that the sinful human history has an end. God will restore everything to their initial state. He will remove sin and its consequences forever.

The book of Job ends with his death, but that's not the end of his story. Death won't be the end of our story either.

Someday "the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever." (Daniel 7:18). That will be the day of our complete restoration.



THE END OF ENDINGS

"If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, till my change comes. You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands." (Job 14:14-15)

The end of endings will come with the restoration of God's eternal Kingdom. Then there will be no more endings.

In that moment, many saints from different ages would have already died and we might also have already died too.

Will we live again? Job has a firm answer to that question. When he'll hear the Voice calling us, he'll answer with a resurrected body. And those who are still alive will be transformed when hearing that Voice (1 Corinthians 15:52).

"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice." (John 5:28).



“Satan, by means of his success in turning man aside from the path of obedience, became ‘the god of this world.’ 2 Corinthians 4:4. The dominion that once was Adam’s passed to the usurper. But the Son of God proposed to come to this earth to pay the penalty of sin, and thus not only redeem man, but recover the dominion forfeited. It is of this restoration that Micah prophesied when he said, ‘O Tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, unto Thee shall it come, even the first dominion.’ Micah 4:8. The apostle Paul has referred to it as ‘the redemption of the purchased possession.’ Ephesians 1:14. And the psalmist had in mind the same final restoration of man’s original inheritance when he declared, ‘The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.’ Psalm 37:29”

E.G.W. (Prophets and Kings, cp. 58, pg. 682)