

## Order of Service 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### ***Deathly Hints of Living Wisdom***

#### Welcome

If you're still reading Job with me, well done! This week's challenge is to cover chapters 29 to 37, though you'll have three weeks to do that, as our next service on Job is not until 14th November. In those chapters you'll hear Job's final defence and also the thoughts of a surprise fourth friend popping into the narrative: one Elihu son of Barakel, an angry young man who has something worthwhile to say.

Today we think about wisdom: its rarity, its value and how to find it. We draw close to worship God.

#### Call to Worship

At that time Jesus said, 'I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. (Matthew 11:25)

We sing of the mystery and wonder of our Lord, one God in Three Persons, as we sing, *Holy, Holy, Holy...*

#### Hymn (BPW 51) **Holy, Holy, Holy,**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy; all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eyes of sinful man Thy glory may not see,  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity!,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer (Thomas a Kempis)

Grant me O Lord to know what is worth knowing,  
to love what is worth loving,  
to praise what delights you most,  
to value what is precious to you,  
and to reject whatever is evil in your eyes.  
Give me true discernment,  
so that I may judge rightly between things that differ.  
Above all, may I search out and do  
what is pleasing to you;  
through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Worship Resources, World Conference on Mission and Evangelism)

If we have worshipped you as a relic from the past, a theological concept, a religious novelty, but not as a living God:

**Lord forgive us.**

If we have confused your will with our understanding of it, if we have preferred divergence to unity:

**Lord forgive us.**

If we have heard stories of struggle, with no intention of sharing the burden or pain:

**Lord forgive us.**

If we have identified the misuse of power, but failed to prophesy against it, and refused to empower the weak:

**Lord forgive us.**

If we have sung songs in praise of your creation, while defiling the goodness of the earth:

**Lord forgive us.**

The Lord says: I will bring my people back to me. I will love them with all my heart.  
No longer am I angry with them. I will be to the people like rain in a dry land.  
This is the promise of God.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

We sing that beautiful song of devotion to Jesus and his kingdom, echoing the Lord's own challenge and invitation: *Seek ye first the Kingdom of God...*

### Hymn (BPW 357) **Seek ye first the Kingdom of God**

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God,  
and His righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you;  
allelu – alleluia!

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu – alleluia!*

Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God;  
allelu – alleluia!

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu – alleluia!*

Ask and it shall be given unto you;  
seek and ye shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you;  
allelu – alleluia!

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu – alleluia!*

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart,  
he shall direct thy path,  
in all thy ways acknowledge him;  
allelu – alleluia!

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu – alleluia!*

Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,  
praise to the Spirit too,  
and to the Godhead, three in one;  
allelu – alleluia!

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu – alleluia!*

### Offering

Our money, our possessions, our gifts, our talents:  
all come from you and all return to you.  
We offer gifts of money, possessions and time  
as a seeking of your kingdom, to bring blessing beyond ourselves.  
Praise be to the name of the Lord. Amen.

Our prayers of intercession this week are prepared by Eric Bremner.

### Prayers of Intercession

We thank you, Lord, that in our country we live in relative peace and safety. Be with all who live in countries where great danger exists and people are in continual risk of personal harm. We think of the peoples of Afghanistan, Syria and Palestine among many others.

We thank you, Lord, that we have a government and legal system that are fair and stable by world standards. Give comfort and care to the relatives and friends of Sir David Amess. Thank you for his life and please protect our leaders from harm. Lord, protect all who live in countries where oppressive governments and legal systems

treat their people very unjustly. We think of the peoples of Myanmar, North Korea and Belarus among many others.

We thank you, Lord, that there continues to be sufficient food in our country to feed us all. We pray for the four million people in the UK who struggle to get sufficient to eat. Help us, Lord, to share the food around, so there will be enough for everyone. We pray for the 821 million people in other countries who suffer various degrees of starvation. Lord, lead the countries who have plenty, as our own, to feed these people, give us the generosity and the organisation to make it happen.

We thank you, Lord, for all forms of healthcare provided in our country. We thank you that we have a doctor for every 370 of our people. We pray particularly for many developing countries; we have 14 doctors to their 1. Lord, help us to share - one in four of our doctors come from many of the countries that need them most.

Lord, help us not to give too much importance to this world's treasures. We thank you that we can house ourselves and meet our living commitments. We place before you the 14 million peoples in our country that earn below the poverty line; help them to self-sufficiency. Help us to house them and to narrow the gap between rich and poor, which has been growing substantially over recent years.

Lord, uphold Christian people everywhere and in particular those places where they are persecuted for their faith. Be with members and friends of our Church at Hearsall; keep them well, faithful and strong. Amen

Dear Lord, may the 1897 hymn by Johnson Oatman, "Count your blessing" be the basis for our living and not the 2021 song by Nathaniel Johnson, "I got too many problems". Amen

Many thanks Eric for those prayers. We hear now our Bible readings from Job and from 1 Corinthians.

### Bible Readings

#### **Job 28: 1 - 28**

*Interlude: Where Wisdom Is Found*

**28** There is a mine for silver

and a place where gold is refined.

<sup>2</sup> Iron is taken from the earth,

and copper is smelted from ore.

- <sup>3</sup> Mortals put an end to the darkness;  
they search out the farthest recesses  
for ore in the blackest darkness.
- <sup>4</sup> Far from human dwellings they cut a shaft,  
in places untouched by human feet;  
far from other people they dangle and sway.
- <sup>5</sup> The earth, from which food comes,  
is transformed below as by fire;
- <sup>6</sup> lapis lazuli comes from its rocks,  
and its dust contains nuggets of gold.
- <sup>7</sup> No bird of prey knows that hidden path,  
no falcon's eye has seen it.
- <sup>8</sup> Proud beasts do not set foot on it,  
and no lion prowls there.
- <sup>9</sup> People assault the flinty rock with their hands  
and lay bare the roots of the mountains.
- <sup>10</sup> They tunnel through the rock;  
their eyes see all its treasures.
- <sup>11</sup> They search the sources of the rivers  
and bring hidden things to light.
- <sup>12</sup> But where can wisdom be found?  
Where does understanding dwell?
- <sup>13</sup> No mortal comprehends its worth;  
it cannot be found in the land of the living.
- <sup>14</sup> The deep says, "It is not in me";  
the sea says, "It is not with me."
- <sup>15</sup> It cannot be bought with the finest gold,  
nor can its price be weighed out in silver.
- <sup>16</sup> It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir,  
with precious onyx or lapis lazuli.
- <sup>17</sup> Neither gold nor crystal can compare with it,  
nor can it be had for jewels of gold.
- <sup>18</sup> Coral and jasper are not worthy of mention;  
the price of wisdom is beyond rubies.

<sup>19</sup> The topaz of Cush cannot compare with it;  
it cannot be bought with pure gold.  
<sup>20</sup> Where then does wisdom come from?  
Where does understanding dwell?  
<sup>21</sup> It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing,  
concealed even from the birds in the sky.  
<sup>22</sup> Destruction and Death say,  
“Only a rumour of it has reached our ears.”  
<sup>23</sup> God understands the way to it  
and he alone knows where it dwells,  
<sup>24</sup> for he views the ends of the earth  
and sees everything under the heavens.  
<sup>25</sup> When he established the force of the wind  
and measured out the waters,  
<sup>26</sup> when he made a decree for the rain  
and a path for the thunderstorm,  
<sup>27</sup> then he looked at wisdom and appraised it;  
he confirmed it and tested it.  
<sup>28</sup> And he said to the human race,  
“The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom,  
and to shun evil is understanding.”

### **1 Corinthians 2: 6 - 10a**

#### *God's wisdom revealed by the Spirit*

<sup>6</sup> We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup> No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> However, as it is written:

‘What no eye has seen,  
what no ear has heard,  
and what no human mind has conceived’ –  
the things God has prepared for those who love him –

<sup>10</sup> these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

The precious truth of our faith is so often invisible to human eyes. Who can see wisdom in the shameful death of God's Son? These things are spiritually understood. Even when we're weary, we keep the faith. So we sing: *Keep the banner flying high.*

**Song Keep the Banner Flying High** (Graham Kendrick)

Verse 1

Give me strength when I'm weary, O my Lord,  
Lift me up when I fall, O my Lord,  
Light a fire in my bones  
That an ocean cannot drown,  
Give me hope, give me strength,  
Until my work is done.

*Chorus*

*O Jesus be my vision,  
O the passion and the fire in my soul.  
We'll keep the banner flying high,  
The banner flying high!*

Verse 2

In the valley of shadow, O my Lord,  
You will walk by our side, O my Lord.  
If we love not our lives,  
Rather die than to deny,  
There'll be crowns, there'll be glory  
When the morning comes.

*Chorus*

Verse 3

Those who wait on you patiently, O my Lord,  
Those who trust in your word, O my Lord,  
They will soar, they will glide,  
Like an eagle in the sky;  
They will walk, not be weary,  
Till the work is done.

*Chorus*

*O Jesus be my vision,  
O the passion and the fire in my soul.  
We'll keep the banner flying high,  
The banner flying high!*

*Bridge*

For His glory, standing shoulder to shoulder,  
Proud to bear His holy name,  
Sound the victory, our God is among us now!  
Sound the victory, our God is among us now!  
Among us now!

*Chorus*

Lord, may my words and our thoughts please you today. Amen.

### Sermon

#### ***Deathly Hints of Living Wisdom***

A four year old girl said this:

*"You might be scared, but it's worth it."*

A three year old boy was making way too much mess in the bath. He was asked to calm down but instead raised his arms in the air and said,

*"But I must have fun!"*

A three year old girl said this:

*"It's okay if she isn't kind to me. I'll show her how."*

A four-year-old on a beautiful beach cried out,

*"I love being in this world!"*

And Jesus said, in words we used at the top of our service:

*'I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.'*

Well, what do you think? Are children wise? Is wisdom, in fact, as easy as child's play?

Proverbs might suggest it is; it portrays wisdom as being readily available; you can collect it like popping to the corner shop for milk. But Job; Job disagrees...

\* \* \*

Chapter 28 of Job is a kind of interlude on the subject of Wisdom. It's an extended poem portraying the mysteries of mines. The poet depicts miners delving deep under the earth's surface, dangling precariously in shafts, opening up secret places where no creatures went: no fearsome lion; seeing things that were beyond a falcon's eye... exploring the subterranean sources of rivers... tunnelling through the roots of mountains, doing almost god-like things....

The point? Just like these precious stones that they were looking for required an intrepid spirit and ingenuity and skill and persistence to find, how much more is **wisdom very hard to find!** Wisdom was then, in Job's world, far from child's play.

From verse 15 the poem begins to explore the value of wisdom. All these precious materials might be gathered: gold, crystal, onyx, lapis lazuli, coral, jasper and topaz, but wisdom:

*Cannot be had for gold or jewels.*

So not only is wisdom very hard to find; it's revealed to be the **most precious of all virtues.**

So how do we find it? Verse 22 remarks:

*Destruction and Death say,  
'Only a rumour of it has reached our ears.'*

Job has been close to death and has known the deaths of his own children. Perhaps here the poet is saying that the realm of the dead - the underworld, Sheol, the place of mysterious oblivion - had actually heard of Wisdom; they did not actually **have** wisdom. The poetry might be hinting that through a near-death experience, through great suffering, we may at least learn something about this elusive wisdom, even if we cannot grasp it.

Verse 23 declares that only God knows the way to wisdom; God who made wind, rain and thunderstorm also looked at wisdom, as we look at precious stones,

appraised it, confirmed it, tested it. Therefore in the Old Testament view, wisdom is intimately connected with God.

Verse 28 at the end of the poem recapitulates standard Biblical teaching:

*And he said to the human race,  
“The fear of the Lord - that is wisdom,  
and to shun evil is understanding.”*

Of course, Job has repeatedly rejected ideas that respecting God leads to an easy life. This notion that the fear of the Lord is wisdom, or the beginning of wisdom, is of course a common biblical theme. Three times in Proverbs and once in the Psalms we read that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Isaiah 33:6 promises even more:

*He will be the sure foundation for your times,  
a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge;  
the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure.*

So wisdom comes from the fear of the Lord - and salvation and knowledge, and a sure foundation. The phrase ‘The Fear of the Lord’ cannot be understood from its constituent words *fear* and the *Lord*. Just as oxygen and hydrogen are gases that compound into H<sub>2</sub>O - water, something quite different - so these words mean something different when expressed in this standard phrase: *The fear of the Lord*.

It refers to something like a deep and proper respect for the holiness of God. It expresses the proper attitude of worship, not to waltz into a service as we might pop into a coffee shop, but to approach with reverence and with a sense of God’s greatness, majesty and power. Only those who appreciate something of this quality - *the-fear-of-the-Lord* - that makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end - can go on to grasp the amazing wonder that we find love in the heart of our awesome divinity.

We might use that word ‘awesome’, but it has been purloined in popular culture to mean really good, extremely satisfactory - and is applied to pop songs, films and days out. Well, language changes, but when we refer to our awesome God, we are referring to something that is categorically different from any everyday human experience.

It's this deep reverence for our awesome God which, according to the Bible, is the place to begin to find wisdom. Whoever wrote this poem presumably intended it to sit here, well into Job's protestations against a simplistic view of religion. Clearly the book is showing that bad things do happen to good people...

Even so, for all Job's dark experiences and exasperation with God, wisdom still comes from God, and to find wisdom is to live life in awe of his greatness. Through all his extreme experiences, Job meets again something that is not a cheap formula or simplistic expectation, but a disposition towards life. Having lost virtually everything, he must sit still with the notion that a respect for God is the only way to begin to be wise.

\* \* \*

But still we must ask, what IS this thing called wisdom? And how do Job's ideas about wisdom being so rare, elusive and precious fit with Jesus' idea, that wisdom can be found in a child?

I don't think it's first of all a way to make decisions or a method for solving problems, this thing called wisdom. I think it's first of all a way of carrying yourself in the world at large. Sometimes I tell the story of *the white feather*. Actually, I normally tell it to children, but for reasons that are perhaps obvious, I will tell it to you now.

The story takes place in a little Quaker settlement in the state of New York, in 1775. The colonies faced the possibility of war with Great Britain, but more urgently, the Native Americans were also preparing for war, having been badly treated by the settlers who had reneged on their promises. It was a dangerous time. They wanted revenge.

The white authorities advised the settlers to leave the area for the time being, but the Quakers stayed in their homes. They did not believe fleeing was the answer. They wanted to offer friendship and fairness to the Native Americans.

But still, the Quakers, in their little settlement, were afraid. On Sunday, in their meeting house, a surprise awaited them. Beside their own leader, Sebulon Hoxie, stood a famous visitor, the celebrated Quaker, Norbert Nisbet. He had walked through the dense forest for two days to be with them.

When he spoke, he read from Deuteronomy 33:12:

*The Lord's beloved dwells in security,  
the High God protects him all the day long,  
and he dwells under his protection.*

Norbert encouraged the Quakers, saying God would look after them.

A customary Quaker silence settled on the meeting. Younger children slept on their mother's laps. Older children gazed at the cracks through the meeting house wall... and what was that? Flashes of colour: red, blue and yellow feathers were glimpsed.

And then, Native American warriors entered through the side doors and at the back stood their Chief with several associates, all fully armed and in full war paint. Horrors rippled through the congregation, but no one visibly trembled, and not a single Quaker moved. They remained in their silent contemplation.

The Chief looked around the room for weapons. Seeing none he signalled for the warriors to take their arrows from their bows and put them into their holders. Then the Chief looked at Grandfather Subulon Hoxie. With sure instinct he knew that this was the White Chief. For a long time he looked directly in Sebulon's eyes, and the Quaker leader held the Chief's gaze calmly. The two men tested each other's strength. This Native American Chief had begun with a look of cold disdain, but Sebulon Hoxie's face reflected the love of Christ which had flooded his heart.

Eventually the Native American chief looked down. He signalled to his men again, and they lay down their weapons at the door and came and sat on the simple benches in the meeting house, along with the regular congregation.

The meeting continued in an ever-deepening silence. Native Americans and Quakers felt a sense of being at home together in this space of worship.

Later Grandfather Hoxie invited the visitors to a simple meal of bread and cheese. Norbert Nisbett spoke their language, and so the Quakers were able to understand what the Chief said. "We came to kill you. But when we saw you all sitting here so calmly without any weapons, we lost all desire to kill you. And now we shall protect you, for you worship the Great Spirit that is also in us."

And after saying this, the Chief took out an arrow with a white feather and fastened it over the door outside. "This feather will protect you from any other attacks," he

explained. "From now on, you are our friends."

\* \* \*

So, what IS wisdom?

- It's the **poise** to sit still in a situation without fully understanding it.
- It's the **peace** to calmly accept another person before we make any judgments about who's right and who's wrong.
- It's the **strength** to look an opponent in the eye and not reach for a weapon or turn away.
- It's the **respect** for another's humanity, even when we don't agree with them.
- It's the **self-control** not to make a snap judgement, not to flinch or lunge or react.
- It's the **ability** to suspend judgement. To live with uncertainty. To love with mystery. To live with pain. To say Yes to life in a changing and uncertain world.
- It's the ability to see with what's sometimes called the Third Eye - the eye beyond our other eyes of assessment and judgement, to the deeper realities of a situation.

Perhaps then, we begin to appreciate how come a child can show wisdom and so can a person who's experienced a great deal of suffering, or a person who has a deep respect for God.

A small child is wise, because they embrace life without understanding it...

They just live it. *But I must have fun! I love being in this world, they say*, knowing nothing of North Korean weapons testing, models of unsustainable economic growth, their parents' mortality or the way their years will accelerate till they fly faster than a weaver's shuttle. All that they ignore, they don't know anything about it! They just live and love being in this world!

An adult loses wisdom typically, because they have so much knowledge that, instead of embracing and experiencing directly what is in front of them, they feel the need to put things into categories and make assessments, perform value judgements, work things out. Their great knowledge brings great anxiety, separates them from experiencing what is directly in front of them, and so robs them of wisdom.

A person who stands in awe of God has the beginning of wisdom because they have

accepted there is an infinite mystery far greater than anything they could ever comprehend. Standing before this mystery enables them to abide in front of other mysteries without insisting on calling them good or bad, right or wrong. By 'other mysteries' I mean here fellow human beings.

And a person who has suffered much may, or may not, develop wisdom. If they can sense that there is something worthwhile about being alive, regardless of their ill-luck and pain, then they, too, have managed to avoid knee-jerk judgements and categorising and quickly saying this is good and that is bad, and just live graciously with the puzzle of their own story. Job is an extreme example of this, and, maybe, just maybe, he is beginning to feel the lesson he must learn from the catastrophes of his recent days.

Such attitudes are the beginning of wisdom - a childlike acceptance, a loving of the perplexing mystery we call God, a gracious endurance through pain... all these are the seeds of wisdom. Of course, day to day judgments must be made. Some things are good and some are bad. Some people are right and some are wrong on particular issues. But for a wise person, these assessments are not the starting point. To start with, they sit still and appreciate the wonder of another human being living in their world. After they have sat for a while, and listened and understood and loved, well then they may be able to offer some few words that might be called wise.

This is the wisdom among the mature of which Paul spoke. God's wisdom, a mystery hidden from the dawn of time. A mystery incomprehensible to the big shots of this world. If they had really got wisdom, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. No, meeting the challenging whirlwind of a man called Jesus of Nazareth, they would have sat, and listened, and appreciated and wondered, questioned and pondered, learnt and loved.

But for those who can bear the gaze of Christ on the cross,

*What no eye has seen,  
what no ear has heard,  
and what no human mind has conceived,  
God has prepared for those who love him.*

And if they love him they love all that he has made, and they love this strange life in

which they live. The cross is God's foolish wisdom, wiser than anything the world can offer, a wisdom that simply carries on loving whatever the world may do.

A new song now, from Martin and me, based on Job 28 and 1 Corinthians 2:...

*Things that no eye has ever seen.*

**Song Things That No Eye Has Ever Seen** (Prue/Sutcliffe)

Where eagles never spread their wings;  
and lions never dare to roar;  
where miners seek for jewels hid  
within the darkness of the earth;  
where unseen rivers start their course;  
where fire and force have done their work;  
where human feet could never walk;  
the hidden treasures lurk.

*Chorus*

*Things that no eye has ever seen;  
things that no ear has ever heard;  
things that no mind has ever known;  
God has kept for those who love.*

Lapis lazuli, topaz, coral,  
jasper, rubies, silver, gold  
delight our eyes as precious things,  
mined and cut and set and sold.  
Unfathomed seas their secrets keep  
- what creatures in deep trenches live?  
and death might hint at something more  
that life, at last, can give.

*Chorus*

Before the dawn of time itself  
a mystery had been stored for us,  
then shown in Christ's triumphant death:  
the might of grace, the power of love.  
This is the wisdom we now choose:

a gentle grace to guide our ways;  
a simple choice of life for all  
inspired by holy fear.

*Chorus*

*Things that no eye has ever seen;  
things that no ear has ever heard;  
things that no mind has ever known;  
God has kept for those who love.*

As islands flood and forests burn,  
as plastic rubbish swirls in seas,  
as glaciers melt and storms return,  
as habitats are placed at risk  
for creatures great and small alike:  
the nations need a common goal  
“A deep respect for all of life  
that God has placed upon the earth.”

*Chorus*

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
And the love of God;  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all, evermore.  
Amen

Sung Blessing

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you  
Wherever he may send you;  
May he guide you through the wilderness;  
Protect you through the storm;  
May he bring you home rejoicing  
At the wonders he has shown you;  
May he bring you home rejoicing  
Once again into our doors.

Playout Song **Hang in there Job**, sung by Nick (from the Fisherfolk)

Well, a long, long time ago, there lived a man named Job.

He had asses, sheep, cattle, and silver and gold.

Then old Lucifer said to the Lord one day,

'I bet, good old Job will curse You,

If You let me take all that away.'

*Chorus*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah,*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah,*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah,*

*Hang in there Job.*

Well, the Lord, knowing Job, let the devil try his hand.

Said, 'Take anything you want, but don't take my man.

He's my servant and I love him, so

You can take anything but I won't let Job go.

*Chorus*

Then poor old Job, lost everything he had;

That old devil turned all his good luck to bad.

He lost his riches and all his children too

But he still loved the Lord, no matter what He said to do.

*Chorus*

Then the devil went up to the Lord and said,

'You've really got a good fine man; I've taken everything away

And I just don't understand - he will not curse you and worship me;

You've really got a good, fine man. I'm going to let Job be.

*Chorus*

Then the Lord went up to Job and said, 'You really are a good, fine man,

And I know there're a lot of things you don't just understand,

But to show you that I love you, I'll tell you what I'll do.

I'll give you twice of everything that ol' devil took from you.

*Chorus*