

G. How does God make it up to His own?

In some ways this is a moot point....God is no man's debtor. But there is a sense of reward with Him as in 1 Corinthians 3 and other places and here is a sense of recovery as when Israel would repent and be fruitful again. So...our wording is poor but the idea is not wrong so long as we don't impose obligatory matters on God or try to manipulate Him after our desires. Without any further confusing information, here are five quick steps--seen in the book of Job--as part of the way that God evens the account with His own.

1. He allows them to remember the past! Job 29...Sometimes we only remember the hard points of the past...but note the text...thinking on the good things of the past is a comfort to Job--his life had not been wasted...if nothing else would turn to good he has a very satisfying record of fellowship with God and service to people.
2. He allows them to reflect on their good deeds. Job 30-31
Job is not boasting but long with memory the recognition of kindness is a great assurance.
3. He responds to prayer Job 31:35, et al. Even though Job often speaks of not being able to contact the Lord we find that the Lord knows and acts appropriately. His ears are always open, His eye is vigilant; He neither slumbers nor sleeps when it comes to the lot of His people
4. He shows Himself and takes the complaint or setting in a personal way. We are not dealing with subalterns but the Lord Himself.
5. He restores in the latter end. Job 42. The proportionate amount assigned to Job may not be the eventual standard of every matter but it is indicative of God's care and satisfactory treating with justice and kindness. For a broader picture, the last chapter of Hosea is very pointed.

III. Summary and maybe a few added notes on the ministry of Elihu and the way in which God spoke and revealed Himself to Job...the revelation that ended the conflict. Alas, the notes stop here! Who knows how long added discussion may last or may not happen at all. The suspense is overpowering! But thanks to all who have worked in this class with me and may the study of the Word of God be your daily "bread and butter."