



## [Job 42:1-6](#)

(1) Then Job answered the LORD and said: (2) "I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose *of Yours* can be withheld from You. (3) *You asked*, "Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?"

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. (4) Listen, please, and let me speak;

*You said*, "I will question you, and you shall answer Me." (5) "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear,

But now my eye sees You. (6) Therefore I abhor *myself*, And repent in dust and ashes."

*New King James Version*

The images Job held both of [God](#) in His relationship with Job and of himself in his [relationship with God](#) and fellow man are shattered into an unrecognizable mass of pulp. Above all, Job now knows that God owes him only what He determines that He owes him. God is not beholden to mankind for anything.

Will we claim that God owes us anything because of our good works? God does not owe us a thing, even if we do obey Him perfectly! Our covenant with Him is not made on that basis. The covenant is made knowing that we owe Him *everything*. We have nothing to bargain with. Do we receive [salvation](#) because we trade keeping the [Sabbath](#) or paying tithes for it?

Job is truly humbled. Do we recognize humility when we see it? Do we know what it really is? Humility is an internal matter, one of the heart, not one of outside appearance. [Moses](#) was a humble man, but he also had a commanding presence. However, a person's humility greatly affects what those watching him see and hear emanate from him.

Godly humility is not a giant inferiority complex, as some believe it to be. Man by nature

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is not humble; by nature, we are well-pleased with ourselves and insane enough to think that we deserve something good from the hand of God. This describes almost exactly what Job thought of himself in his relationship with God. Men think that as long as God allows them to conduct their lives in a civil way, keeping themselves from the grosser sins, then everything is fine in their relationship with Him. The important reality of true humility is far from what men think, as Job certainly discovered.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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