

Job

*“In all this, Job did not sin
by charging God with wrongdoing.” – Job 1:22*

Great Verses

- Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.
- Job 1:22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.
- Job 2:10 What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.
- Job 5:7 Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.
- Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.
- Job 14:5 The number of months is with thee.
- Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer lives, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:
- Job 23:16 For God makes my heart soft, and the Almighty troubleth me:

The Background to the Story

“In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job” - so begins the story. No, it is not the land of Oz. This is not Wizard of Oz story.

Uz, The land of

Where Job lived (1:1; Jer. 25:20; Lam. 4:21), probably somewhere to the east or south-east of Palestine and north of Edom. It is mentioned in Scripture only in these three passages.

Job – when and who was he? Date, Time, Location?

Job lived 140 after all these trials (Job 42:16-17) He could have lived 200 years or more, which by Divine mandate dated him after the flood and before Abraham. Yet he does not appear on any of the genealogical record for the three sons of Noah. (See Genesis 10) After Noah came the Tower of Babel (Gen. 11) and the confusion of languages. We may assume or deduce that Job came between Babel and Abraham, probably closer to the time just before Abraham. (See life spans NKJV Study Bible page 15)

The Theme: The Problem of Pain and Suffering

It is a universal problem.

Books on the Subject of Suffering

- Phillip Yancey – *Where Is God When It Hurts*
- Rabbi Harold Kushner – *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*
- Joni Eareckson Tada – book *Joni*
- CS Lewis – *The Problem of Pain*
- Mission Frontiers – *Losing Faith*

In a recent article in Frontier Missions – losing faith

Matthew 5:45 That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

I. What We Know About Job

The Trial #1 – Job 1:13-15: The Trouble: Calamity number 1 – His Assets

Job 1:6-12 - Satan's Visit

Job 1:10 - The hedge of protection

Job 1:13-19 Attack His wealth and blessings

Job 1:20-22 – His faith – The Lord gives and takes away...

Large household Great man in the east 7000 sheep 3,000 camels 500 yoke of ox 500 female donkeys
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The Trial #2 – Job 2: - The Test: Calamity number 2 – His Health

Job 2:1-6 - Satan's second visit

Job 2:6 God limits his attacks – spare his life

Job 2:7-8 - Boils head to foot

Job 2:9 - Wife – curse God and Die

Job 2:19 - His faith

The Trial #3 – Job 3:1-26 – Job's depression – His Sanity, Peace, Joy

Tell the story with excerpts

Depression

Longing to die

Wishing never born

<u>Grief Stages</u>

Denial - Anger - Bargaining - Depression - Acceptance

The Torment – Job's friends, miserable comforters

Tell the arguments and dialogue of Job's miserable comforters.

Job 16:2 I have heard many such things: miserable comforters are ye all.

Friends – Job 2:11:13

Eliphaz, 4-5, 15, 22

Bildad, 8, 18, 25

Zophar, 11, 20

Elihu – 32-37

God 38-41

Job, 6-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 19, 21, 23-24, 26-31

The Turn Around – Revelation and restoration

Conclusion – Job 42

Job 42:10. After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had before. 11. All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought upon him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring. 12. The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys.

II. What We Learn From Job

Ask not, Why me? better to ask, Why not me?

1. Satan attacks saints
2. God is in control
3. The rain falls on the just and unjust - Matthew 5:45
4. Miserable comforters – sit in silence, weep, mourn, be silent
5. Don't blame and curse God - don't take own life
6. Pray for your friends
7. Great promises and truths

Great Verses from Job

- Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.
- Job 1:22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.
- Job 2:10 What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.
- Job 5:7 Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.
- Job 9:12 He takes away. Who can stop him or say to him, What are you doing?
- Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.
- Job 14:5 The number of months is with thee.
- Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer lives, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:
- Job 23:16 For God makes my heart soft, and the Almighty troubleth me:

Great Truths

- **1 Peter 4:12-13** Think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:18** In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
- **Romans 8:28** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Illustrations

- Great Books on the Subject of Pain and Suffering
- Joni Earikson Tada
- Helen Keller
- Yancey stories
- My poison ivy
- Aimee's death – Mom's visitor
- *I Never Promised You a Rose Garden*

C.S. Lewis Quote: p 128 of Where Is God When It Hurts, Yancey

“Ships sail east and ships sail west,

C.S. Lewis Quote: p 128 of *Where Is God When It Hurts*, Yancey

**“Ships sail east and ships sail west,
While the selfsame breezes blow,
It’s the set of the sail and not the gale,
That determines the way they go.”**

“I am not convinced that suffering ... has any natural tendency to produce such evils (anger and cynicism). I did not find it in the front line trenches of the Combined Chiefs of Staff (C.C.S.) more full of hatred, selfishness, rebellion, and dishonesty than any other place. I have seen great beauty of spirit in some who were great sufferers. I have seen men, for the most part, grow better not worse with advancing years, and I have seen the last illness produce treasures of fortitude and meekness from most unpromising subjects... If the world is indeed a ‘vale of soul-making,’ it seems on the whole to be doing its work.”

C.S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*, p. 108

Closing Song – On CD

Praise You in This Storm

words by Mark Hall/music by Mark Hall and Bernie Herms

I was sure by now, God, that You would have reached down
and wiped our tears away,
stepped in and saved the day.
But once again, I say amen
and it's still raining
as the thunder rolls
I barely hear You whisper through the rain,
"I'm with you"
and as Your mercy falls
I raise my hands and praise
the God who gives and takes away.

Chorus:

And I'll praise you in this storm
and I will lift my hands
for You are who You are
no matter where I am
and every tear I've cried
You hold in your hand
You never left my side
and though my heart is torn
I will praise You in this storm

I remember when I stumbled in the wind
You heard my cry to You
and raised me up again
my strength is almost gone how can I carry on
if I can't find You
and as the thunder rolls
I barely hear You whisper through the rain
"I'm with you"
and as Your mercy falls
I raise my hands and praise
the God who gives and takes away

Chorus

I lift my eyes onto the hills
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth
I lift my eyes onto the hills
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth