

Job

Why Am I Suffering?

Have you ever asked God “_____?” when you were experiencing intense suffering, or when you were helplessly watching someone you love go through an overwhelmingly painful experience?

The book of Job is the account of one of the best-known examples of _____ suffering. In a matter of only hours, Job, a materially wealthy and spiritually righteous man, is suddenly stripped of all his material _____, all of his _____, and finally, even his _____.

Oddly, we don’t know who _____ the book of Job, we don’t know for sure _____ Job lived, and we don’t even know _____ Job was! However, there are some indications that Job lived during the time of the patriarchs, perhaps not long after the days of _____:

1. Job lived for close to _____ years.
2. Job’s wealth is measured in _____, not gold and silver.
3. Job is the _____ of his family, even offering sacrifices.
4. There is no mention of _____ or the Mosaic Law.

The book of Job begins with a _____ between God and Satan. In what seems like a heavenly wager, God allows Satan to afflict Job in order to _____ that Job’s love for God is sincere and not based on his being _____ blessed. Satan accepts the challenge, and the action begins... But of course, all this behind the scenes conversation is _____ to Job.

As Job seeks to find the answer to his question “Why am I suffering?” _____ of his friends come to offer their explanations. Even after three cycles of _____ with three of his friends, Job’s question is still _____ satisfactorily answered. And in the process of defending his _____ to his friends, Job unwittingly becomes _____ of self-righteousness.

The book of Job concludes with God Himself _____ to Job out of a whirlwind. In two conversations with Job, God reveals His power, His wisdom, and His _____ authority. Job responds by saying, “What can I reply to Thee? I lay my hand on my mouth.” Job learns that he has no right to doubt God’s ways in the _____ realm when he can’t even begin to explain the _____ realm around him. Job progresses from focussing on his _____ to focussing on God’s _____.

Job never did _____ God as Satan had wanted, and so God “won” the wager. When the testing was over, God blessed Job with _____ as much as he’d had before, and gave him another _____ years of life! But interestingly enough, God _____ answered the question “Why?”

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Theme</u>	
1–2	Prologue (Debate Between God and Satan)	
3–14	} Dialogues	First Round With Job’s Friends
15–21		Second Round With Job’s Friends
22–31		Third Round With Job’s Friends
32–37	Monologue of Elihu	
38–41	Monologue of Yahweh	
42	Epilogue (Job Again Blessed by God)	

Some key verses:

1. Job’s _____ and _____ wealth is described (Job 1:1–5).
2. Satan’s _____ against Job are described (Job 1:6–12).
3. Job’s great _____ are described (Job 1:13–19).
4. Job’s great _____ is described (Job 1:20–22).
5. Satan’s second round of _____ on Job are described (Job 2:3–8).
6. Job’s wife’s poor _____ is described (Job 2:9).
7. Job’s continual great _____ is described (Job 2:10).
8. Job’s three friends’ first _____ is described (Job 2:11–13).
9. Job wishes he’d never been _____, or had been _____ (Job 3:1–3,11).

10. Eliphaz attributes Job's suffering to his _____ (Job 4:8; 5:27).
11. Job _____ Eliphaz's charge (Job 6:24; 7:20).
12. Bildad uses _____ to support the claim that Job has _____ (Job 8:6,8).
13. Job complains that God hasn't _____ him (Job 10:1,7).
14. Zophar exhorts Job to _____ his sins to God (Job 11:13-15).
15. Job lashes out with _____ against his three friends (Job 12:1-3).
16. Job _____ his three friends and wants to _____ his case before God Himself (Job 13:1-4,15,23).
17. Eliphaz asks Job what makes him think he's so _____ (Job 15:7-10).
18. Job responds by calling his three friends a bunch of " _____ " (Job 16:1,2).
19. Job again expresses his desire to _____ his case before God (Job 16:21).
20. Bildad denigrates Job and then implies he is _____ (Job 18:1,2,5).
21. Job mentions his own bad _____, but also his hope in the _____ (Job 19:17,20,25,26).
22. Job wishes his words were _____ down, and ironically, they _____ (Job 19:23).
23. Zophar implies Job's _____ are due to his _____ (Job 20:26-29).
24. Job points out that the _____ DO prosper, and then states that his friends' answers are full of _____ (Job 21:7-15,34).
25. Eliphaz again attributes Job's suffering to his great _____, even offering up _____ examples (Job 22:4-7).
26. Job _____ seeks to confront God with his arguments and be completely _____ because of his righteous living (Job 23:1-6,10-12).
27. Job goes from being righteous to being _____-righteousness (Job 27:5,6).
28. Job complains about God's _____ in the midst of his suffering (Job 30:20,21).
29. After patiently _____ to Job and his three friends debate, the young man Elihu speaks up, _____ the three friends' arguments and Job's self-righteous attitude toward God, and finishes up by exalting God's greatness (Job 32:1-4,12; 33:13; 34:10-12; 37:14).

30. God _____ His silence, but instead of _____ Job's questions, God _____ His own, and does so for four chapters (Job 38:1–4; 40:1–9).
31. God describes the Behemoth, _____, that He _____ (Job 40:15–18,23,24).
32. God describes the Leviathan, _____, that He _____ (Job 41:1,2,7–11,15–21,26–33).
33. Job responds with _____ and _____ (Job 42:1–3,6).
34. God _____ the three friends and _____ Job's fortunes _____, but doesn't answer Job's question on _____ he was suffering (Job 42:7–17).