

# Job 1

Truth

- **Author:** Elihu? Not one of the three but enters conversation in Ch. 32  
Elihu **breaks the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wall**/Talks to us the reader in first person...

**Job 32:16** ...I have waited, because **they did not speak**, Because **they stood still** and answered no more.17 I also will answer my part, I too will declare my opinion.

## Thus Elihu may be the author...or Job

- **Genre: Poetry** as are Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
  1. **Poetic Narrative:** Not using rhyme but repetitions/combination of ideas
  2. **True Narrative:** Real guy going through really hard stuff
- **Date:** Time of Patriarchs as per Job's lifespan 240 years
- **Place:** Uz. Lit Wooded. Damascus of Syria or surrounding. Desert/God's classroom

## Job is Renown in Scripture

Righteousness/Patience/Perseverance

**Ezekiel 14:14** Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and **Job**, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by **their righteousness**

**James 5:11**... we count them **blessed who endure**. You have heard of the **perseverance of Job** and seen the end intended by the Lord [spoiler alert] —that the Lord is **very compassionate and merciful**.

- **Oldest Book in Bible**

It is fascinating to think that as we open this text we may be faced with the earliest of all written accounts of a **human being's relationship with the one true God**. [Mason]

- **Subject:** Problem of human suffering especially for the "*righteous*"...

**Isaiah 55:8** ...My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

- **Purpose:** To reveal that even the most "*righteous*" must repent before a Holy God

**Job 42:5** [Rationale] [Job last chapter] 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**."

## I. Job and Family

1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was **Job**; and that man was **blameless and upright**, and one who **feared God** and **shunned evil**.

- **Job of Uz:** Possible scriptural reference...

**Genesis 10:29** Ophir, Havilah, and **Jobab** [?]**...** sons of Joktan.

- **Job:** lit *Hated*. rt. to be hostile to/Enemy to. Satan hates us all

1. **Blameless** Perfect/Complete. rt. Finished
2. **Upright** Straight. Righteous.

Feared God and Shunned Evil  
IOWs Job Loved the Lord

**Psalm 97:10** You who **love the Lord, hate evil!** He preserves the souls of His saints; He **delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.** [In His time as per Job]

- **Great family**

2 And **seven sons** and **three daughters** were born to him. 3 Also, his possessions were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a **very large household**, so that this man was the **greatest of all the people of the East.**

- **10 Kids** 7 Sons/3 Daughters
- **Great Riches** Currency Livestock
- **Large Household** Many Servants

***The Greatest*** of All People of the East

4 And his **sons would go and feast** in their houses, each on his **appointed day**, and would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 So it was, when the **days of feasting had run their course**, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would **rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings** according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

- **7 Sons** each taking turns feasting at each other's homes
- **After kids feasting** Job would attempt to cover them w/sacrifice

**Problem?** We can't cover someone else's sin

- No human acting as priest can forgive sin.
- Sin is against God alone it is He who must forgive [Psalm 51:4 against You alone I sinned]

We must come to God personally

**Job 42:8** [Last chapter God to Jobs "friends"] ... take for **yourselves** seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and **offer up for yourselves a burnt offering**; and **My servant Job shall pray for you.**

**1 John 1:8** If we **say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves**, and the truth is not in us. 9 **If we confess our sins**, He is faithful and just to **forgive us** our sins and to **cleanse us** from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and **His word is not in us.**

- **Best we can do for others?**

1. Intercede w/ Prayer
2. Intercede w/ Word

**IOWs** we can't live someone else's life for them.  
Only Jesus can do that

- **In Job's defense w/regard to Sacrifice**

1. This is the first book of the Bible
2. Only Oral transmission passed down from A/E

- **Offered Sacrifice**

1. Cain/Able knew of Sacrifice
2. Job knew of Sacrifice
3. Moses received God's command to Sacrifice
4. Jesus finished any further need of Sacrifice by His Ultimate Sacrifice

**Job sacrificed after his kids feasted**  
...They feasted a lot so Job sacrificed a lot

- Rich man
- Godly man
- Caring man
- Consistent man...BTW where's his wife?

## **II. Satan Attacks Job's Character**

6 Now there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the Lord, and **Satan also came among them.**

- **Sons of God** All created angels fallen or not
- **Present selves to God** Account of themselves

Satan figuratively has the title deed of the Earth we lost at the fall  
**Yet all angels including Satan still must submit to God**

7 And the Lord said to Satan, "**From where do you come?**" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "**From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.**"

- **IOWs** Just another day in the life of Satan. Back/Forth all over the earth. **Why?**

**1 Peter 5:8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil **walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour**

- **Sovereignty of God:** Satan seeks to devour as **God seeks to test...**

8 Then the Lord said to Satan, "**Have you considered My servant Job,** that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who **fears God** and shuns evil?"

- **God offers Job?** My best guy. I got a guy...
  1. Blameless
  2. Righteous
  3. Fears Me/Hates you...

The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God you fear nothing else, whereas when you don't not fear God you fear everything else. [Chambers]

- **Considered:** Military term. Lit. Study to find ways to defeat
- **Satan:** I have considered Job...

9 So **Satan answered** the Lord and said, "**Does Job fear God for nothing?**  
10 Have You not made a **hedge around him**, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have **blessed the work of his hands**, and his possessions have increased in the land.

**Q.** Have you considered Job?

**A.** Yes I have...but you have protected him

- **Satan will attack Job**

1. His Property
2. His Family
3. His Health
4. Begins with **his character**

Satan questions Job's motives for fearing/loving/serving God  
It's because of what You do for him...not because of who You are that he has been faithful

**IOWs You pay Job to love You!**

- **You bless** him with protection
- **You bless** him with family
- **You bless** him with riches [livestock]

**Satan's accusation against God?**

You're keeping Your promise to those who fear You

**Psalm 34:7** The angel of the **Lord encamps all around those who fear Him**, And delivers them.

**Psalm 128:1** **Blessed is every one who fears the Lord**, 2 When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be **happy**, and it shall be **well with you**.

11 But now, stretch out Your hand and **touch all that he has**, and he will surely **curse You to Your face!**"

- **Satan:** Let me at him...

**Luke 22:31...** "Simon, Simon! Indeed, **Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.** 32 But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."

Note Jesus did not stop Satan from sifting Peter  
Shake out the good from bad so Peter would not be self-deceived

- **Chink in Peter's armor:** Pride. I'll die for You
- **Chink in Job's armor?** As per Satan; A little adversity and he will deny you

**Satan's Objective:** Job cursing God to His face

## God's Purpose: To perfect Job

12 And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, **all that he has** is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

- **All that he has?**
  1. **Riches**
  2. **Household**
  3. **Kids**

### III. Satan Attacks Job's Possessions

13 Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were **eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house**; 14 and **a messenger came** to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, 15 when the **Sabeans** raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

Job found purposefully alone? Considered Job/formed a strategy...

**Luke 4:13b...** [The devil] departed from [Jesus] **until an opportune time.**

- **Servants Message:** Sabeans raided
  1. Your assets/retirement have been liquidated
  2. Servants are dead except me

Out of the Blue. Unexpected. Caught by Surprise. Taken Unaware

**Ecclesiastes 9:12** ...man also does not know his time: Like fish taken in a cruel net, Like birds caught in a snare, So the **sons of men are snared in an evil time, When it falls suddenly upon them.**

- **Sideswiped...**

Job's Prayer before it Happened?

Lord I don't know what's around the next corner but you do so prepare me for it

- **Message:** Job, You're not rich any more...

16 **While he was still speaking, another** also came and said, "The **fire of God** fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

- **Act of God:** Why is every "natural disaster" labeled act of God? Not this time...

Satan Rains Fire from the Sky  
Licked up Job's Sheep/Servants

**Revelation 13:11** Then I saw another beast [FP] coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 **He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Servants Message:** Satan sent fire from Heaven
  1. [More] Assets/retirement have been liquidated
  2. Servants are dead except me

17 While he was still speaking, **another also came** and said, "The **Chaldeans** formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

- **3<sup>rd</sup> Servants Message:** Chaldeans/Babylon raided w/3 bands of terrorists
  1. [More] Assets/retirement have been liquidated
  2. Servants are dead except me

18 While he was still speaking, **another also came** and said, "Your **sons and daughters** were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, 19 and suddenly a **great wind** came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of **the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead**; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

- **4<sup>th</sup> Servants Message** worse by million x than last three
  1. **Your kids.** Young people are dead.
  2. **Great Wind** Destroyed the house even as they feasted

## Satan Causes a Hurricane

**Luke 8:23** [On way to deliver demoniac] ... they sailed [Jesus] fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy. 24 And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" Then **He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm.**

**Fact:** Jesus has power over the Satanic fierce wind and Satan himself  
So why did He not stop this from happening? Why? Why? Why?

**IOWs** If God can end suffering...Why doesn't God end suffering?

- Sin is the root cause of suffering. Before sin there was no suffering
- Suffering is the result of man relinquishing his will to Satan the enemy of God

**Q1.** Why does God not always step in?

**Q2.** Why does God ever step in?

**Q3.** Why would God send His Son to save me?

20 Then **Job arose**, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. 21 And he said: **"Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord."**

**Good News:** Most of us will never be left with absolutely nothing  
**If we were would Jesus be enough?**

Gold fears no fire. Whatever we have that is burned up and left behind in the furnace wasn't worth having anyway...[Wiersbe]

- **Dichotomy:** Though surprised **Job was ready** because of His relationship with God
  1. I came into this world with nothing I can leave with nothing
  2. Everything I had was a gift that belonged to God and He can do as He wills

Blessed be the name of the Lord

**Ecclesiastes 5:15** As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return, To go as he came; And he shall take nothing from his labor Which he may carry away in his hand.

**1 Timothy 6:7** ...we brought nothing into this world/it is certain we can carry nothing out.

**Ecclesiastes 5:19** As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labor—this is the **gift of God**.

- **Job Arose** and humbled himself before his creator
  1. Tore his robe
  2. Shaved his head
  3. Fell on ground...**and worshiped**

**2 Samuel 12:15b...** [Child of Adultery] And **the Lord struck the child** that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became ill. 16 David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and **lay all night on the ground**. 17 So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them. 18 Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the **child died**. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead. For they said, "Indeed, while the child was alive, we spoke to him, and he would not heed our voice. How can we tell him that the child is dead? He may do some harm!" 19 When David saw that his servants were whispering, David perceived that the child was dead. Therefore David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" And they said, "He is dead." **20 So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped.** Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate. 21 Then his servants said to him, "What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food." 22 And he said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' 23 But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

- **David sinned** Dealt w/consequences sin by worshipping God
- **Job did not sin** Wrestled with temptation [not a sin] confusion/lies of the enemy

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|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Tempted to question | The Goodness of God  | Will You?      |
| 2. Tempted to question | The Ability of God   | Can You?       |
| 3. Tempted to question | The Existence of God | Are you there? |

**22 In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.**

- **Job did not say:** God doesn't love me, care about me, think about me

It is faith's work to claim and challenge loving-kindness out of all the roughest strokes of God [Samuel Rutherford]

- **NOTE: David/Job** did not forsake God because of tragedy. **Both...**

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. <b>Had</b> Eternal Perspectives | ... <b>Before the tragedy</b> |
| 2. <b>Were</b> Broken before God   | ... <b>During the tragedy</b> |
| 3. <b>Did</b> Humble themselves    | ... <b>After the tragedy</b>  |

Both got up and worshiped God anyway

Faith is living without scheming. It is obeying God in spite of feelings, circumstances, or consequences, knowing that He is working out His perfect plan in His way and in His time [Wiersbe]