Job 2

Truth

- Job God's Righteous Man
 - 1. Blameless/Upright
 - 2. Fears God/Hates Evil
- Job's Situation on Earth

1. **10 Kids** 7 Sons/3 Daughters

2. **Great Riches** Currency Livestock

3. Large Household Many Servants

The Greatest of All People of the East

- Satan Attacks Job: End Goal that Job curse God to His face as all heaven watches
 - 1. Character Accuses Job of serving God for what God gives him...Attempts to prove taking Job's...

Property Wealth/Servants Gone.

3. **Family** All 10 Children Dead in one day...

Job 1:20 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." 22 **In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.**

Satan is not done with Job/Neither is God...

Genesis 50:20 ... but God meant it for good

Romans 8:28 ...all things work together for good...

I. Satan Attacks Job's Health

1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord. 2 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 3 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? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause."

Satan attacked Job's character/property/Family...for/no cause

Job never blamed God. Held fast to Integrity

Lit. Continued to remain strong/Prevailed in Innocence

Every trial we endure without blaming God is a defeat for Satan. [NJC]

Have you reconsidered my servant Job?

4 So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. 5 But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Revelation 12:10b ...the **accuser of our brethren**, who accused them before our God day and night...

• Satan: Adversary/Accuser. God did not accuse Job. Satan did....

Though Job did not curse You when I killed his children...
He will curse You to save his own skin!

How important is health? The world would say...

When you have your health, you have everything. When you do not have your health, nothing else matters at all. [Burroughs]

He will curse You to save his own skin!

6 And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life."

You can bring Job to the point of death

1 Corinthians 10:13b [God] will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you **may be able to bear it**.

Bear it how?

Hebrews 12:3 For **consider Him** [Jesus] who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

- Jesus suffered more than anyone at Satan's hand
- God the Father used the suffering of His Son to teach Him

Hebrews 5:8 ...though He was a Son, yet [Jesus] learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him...

If Jesus being sinless learned by what He suffered, how much more do we need to learn from what we suffer, to squeeze out every drop of wisdom and waste none? [NJC]

7 So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and **struck Job with** painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. 8 And he took for himself a potsherd with which to **scrape himself** while he sat in the **midst of the ashes**.

- Scene: Satan Strikes Job Physically
 - 1. **Painful boils** covering entire body
 - 2. **Sitting ashes** of human waste
 - 3. **Scraping puss** from itching boils...moaning in pain and....

9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!"

Spoken from overwhelming grief not faith. Dare we accuse her?

10 Children buried. Husband suffering in the ashes of a dung heap as she watches

1.	Intense pain	30:17
2.	Peeling/darkened skin	30:30
3.	Pus-filled, erupting sores	7:5b
4.	Anorexia/Emaciation	19:20
5.	Fever	30:30b
6.	Depression	7:16
7.	Heart in turmoil	30:27-28
8.	Weeping	16:16a
9.	Sleeplessness	7:4
10.	Nightmares	7:14
11.	Putrid breath	19:17
12.	Difficulty breathing	9:18
13.	Failing vision	16:16b
14.	Rotting teeth	19:20
15.	Haggard looks	2:12
16.	Painful, swollen sores	2:7
17.	Intense itching	2:8

18. Wife who cracks... Curse God and Die?

10 But [Job] said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks.

• Foolish women: Those who do not believe in God

Mercy misdirected and distorted. Disregarding the consequences of her words, Mrs. Job indicts God while offering her husband a seemingly quick fix to the pain. [NJC]

Nevertheless, the implication of her words, "do you still hold fast to your integrity?" is that **she had abandoned her integrity** [I.e. *innocence in charging God*]. Satan's goal in his attacks against Job was to shake Job from his standing; he failed in regard to Job, but he succeeded in regard to Job's wife. Job must have been severely grieved, both at his wife's foolish words and her own shaken faith. "His cup seemed full yet another turn of the rack, so to speak, is yet possible. It is not spared him. From the one human quarter from which comfort might have yet come, there comes only a vulgar taunt, and suggestion of despair. [Bradley]

Satan removed everything else that Job had. **Why didn't he remove his wife too?** I think the reason is that his wife wasn't any help to Job. It seemed she would actually do the devil's bidding. [JV McGee]

She listened to the wrong voice...

Job 1:11 [Satan] ... touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

She lost hope for Job because she was unaware of heavenly meeting when God had constrained Satan from taking Job's life. She was looking for a way out. [NJC]

In severe testing our first question should not be how I can get out of this but **what can I get out of this.** [Wiersbe]

Spoke as a foolish woman

10b... Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?"

God is not a debtor to man/Owes us nothing

Romans 11:35 "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?" 36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

1 Timothy 6:7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

Shall we not accept adversity?

10c... In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

In all his pain...Job retained an Eternal Perspective

James 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

II. Job's Three Friends At the Dump

11 Now when Job's **three friends** heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, each one came from his own place—**Eliphaz** the Temanite, **Bildad** the Shuhite, and **Zophar** the Naamathite. For they had made an appointment together to come and mourn with him, and to comfort him. 12 And when they raised their eyes from afar, and **did not recognize him**, they lifted their voices and wept; and each one tore his robe and sprinkled dust on his head toward heaven. 13 So they sat down with him on the ground **seven days** and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they **saw that his grief** was very great.

My best friend is the one who brings out the best in me. [Henry Ford]

Job needed a Jonathan but he got these guys instead. [NJC]

Three Friends

1. **Eliphaz** God is strength lit God is Fine Gold

2. **Bildad** Son of contention Mean/Brutal/Blunt/Cold Mode Op

3. **Zophar** A Sparrow Twittering/Mean tongue

Some things they say will be true...other things not so much

Important: The Bible is completely true yet not all statement in the Bible are all true. E.g. The devil said to Eve "You shall not surely die." **False**. IOWs **the devil was not inspired by God** to lie...but **the record of his lie is inspired for us to read**. [Paraphrase McGee]

E.g. Question when reading Ecclesiastes? When was Solomon speaking to the reader with earthly "under the sun" wisdom vs when was Solomon speaking to us with heavenly wisdom? [NJC]

• Same with these guys. Not everything they will say will be true

Heavenly Vs Demonic Wisdom Difference is Inspiration and Motive

James 3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the **meekness of wisdom**. 14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. 16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

- **Good News** Job is shown compassion from friends
- **Bad News** This is as good as its going to get till the end

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Sit with Job Seven days/Nights in the city dump. They will eventually...
Begin to shake their heads in condemnation until **Job simply can't take it any more...**

Job 3

Truth

I. Job Explodes

1 After this Job opened his mouth and **cursed the day of his birth**. 2 And Job spoke, and said: 3 "May the day perish on which I was born, And the night in which it was said, 'A **male child is conceived**.' 4 May that day be darkness; May God above not seek it, Nor the light shine upon it. 5 May darkness and the shadow of death claim it; May a cloud settle on it; May the blackness of the day terrify it.

Feeling like we don't want to be here at times is a reality for believers

Dropped by helicopter into enemy territory...

Moses, Jeremiah, Elijah, and Paul

2 Corinthians 1:8b ...we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life.

- Job wished he had never been born. Yet...
 - 1. **Job did not** curse God...but the day of his birth
 - 2. **Job never** spoke of ending his own life
 - 3. **Job did not** say he wanted to die but wanted never to have been born
- Pain can make people say things they may regret...

Job's friends will hear his words but not feel the anguish of his heart. They will take the wrong approach in "helping" him handle his problems. They will **argue with his words instead of ministering to his feelings.** [Wiersbe]

God uses Suffering that we might grow in Wisdom

Heb 12:11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been **trained** by it.

Suffering is Temporal for the Believer

Romans 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God is with us in our Suffering

Not any more than we can handle/Much more than we think we can handle Because He will never leave nor forsake us... He is in it with us

- Hebrew Names
 Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah
- Chaldean Names Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego suffered by Nebuchadnezzar

Daniel 3:24 "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." 25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the **Son of God**."

May the day perish on which **I was born**May the night perish when this **male child is conceived**

- Job curses two events
 - 1. Curses the day he was born
 - 2. Curses the day he was conceived

Note the day he was conceived he was already a male-child...a Human Being

Job 10:8 Your hands have made me and fashioned me, An intricate unity; Yet You would destroy me. 9 Remember, I pray, that You have made me like clay. And will You turn me into dust again? 10 Did You not **pour me out like milk, And curdle me like cheese**, 11 Clothe me with skin and flesh, And knit me together with bones and sinews?

At this minute Job desires that he had never been born

6 As for that night, may darkness seize it; May it not rejoice among the days of the year, May it not come into the number of the months. 7 Oh, may that night be barren! May no joyful shout come into it! 8 May those curse it who curse the day, Those who are **ready to arouse Leviathan**. 9 May the stars of its morning be dark; May it look for light, but have none, And not see the dawning of the day; 10 Because it did not shut up the doors of my mother's womb, Nor hide sorrow from my eyes.

Leviathan: Dinosaur. Sea Creature later fig. of Satan

IOWs May all those who like to curse...Curse the day I was born

11 "Why did I not die at birth? Why did I not perish when I came from the womb? 12 Why did the knees receive me? Or why the breasts, that I should nurse?

- **Four why's:** Not a bad question *if we don't expect to get an answer*
 - 1. Why did I not die at birth?
 - 2. Why did I not die in the womb?
 - 3. Why did the nurse catch me?
 - 4. Why did my mother nurse me?

Time to stop asking why and ask what Instead Job digresses into a rant of worldly wisdom/false comfort...

13 For now I would have lain still and been quiet, I would have been asleep; Then I would have been at rest 14 With kings and counselors of the earth, Who built ruins for themselves, 15 Or with princes who had gold, Who filled their houses with silver; 16 Or why was I not hidden like a stillborn child, Like infants who never saw light? 17 There the wicked cease from troubling, And there the weary are at rest. 18 There the prisoners rest together; They do not hear the voice of the oppressor. 19 The small and great are there, And the servant is free from his master.

> We do not create doctrine from Poetry Books in the Bible Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon

Authors of Poetry speak of death/afterlife out of ignorance:

All go to the same place Good/Bad/Oppressed/Oppressors/Animals. **False**

Doctrine regarding life after death must be taken from the One who experienced both life and death and lived to tell about it...Jesus. [NJC]

- Matthew 25
 - 1. **Sheep** [saved] go to Eternal Life
 - 2. **Goats** [unsaved] go to Eternal Punishment. Nothing in between

The Bible is true. Not all statements made in Bible are true including some from Job

False from Job

1. If I did die I would sleep Absent from body present with the Lord

2. Everyone goes to the same place Dead is dead.

True from Job later... Job comes to a better understanding

Job 14:14 If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, Till my change comes.

Job 19: 25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; 26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, 27 Whom

I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

We do not create doctrine from Poetry Books in the Bible. Cults do.

20 "Why is light given to him who is in misery, And life to the bitter of soul, 21 Who long for death, but it does not come, And search for it more than hidden treasures; 22 Who rejoice exceedingly, And are glad when they can find the grave? 23 Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden, And whom God has hedged in? 24 For my sighing comes before I eat, And my groanings pour out like water.

Groanings are continually pouring out of me like water

25 For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, And what I dreaded has happened to me. 26 I am not at ease, nor am I quiet; I have no rest, for trouble comes."

What I feared the most is happening Leaves us with more questions than answers

Why was Job previously fearing anything but God while things were going well? Who is Job blaming now? Is Job blaming anyone? Is Satan messing with Job's mind even as he did Eve's in the garden [God does not want your best]? Did Job's fear somehow supernaturally manifest into reality? Was it a negative confession? **OR** Did Satan "consider" Job and especially his particular fears and act accordingly. **Yea, that last one.** [NJC]

- What did Job fear while living well? A in v26
 - 1. He would lose his **easy life**
 - 2. He would lose his quiet life
 - 3. He would lose his **restful life**...Satan considered Job and acted accordingly

Satan steps back to the corner of the Ring Satan will rest while Job's friends continue the assault

Hang in their Job!

God is working all things for Job's Good and His Eternal Purpose

Jeremiah 29:11 I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.