

The Book of JOB
Introduction & Chapters 1 & 2
“The Battle: Satan vs. Job”

- **The name JOB means-** in Hebrew “the persecuted one” or in Arabic the “repentant one.”

- **Date:** Job lived around 2000 B.C. (during the times of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph.)

- **Authorship:** Unknown, possibly Job himself, or possibly Elihu, Moses, Solomon, Isaiah, Hezekiah, Jeremiah, Baruch and Ezra. One Talmudic tradition suggests Moses because the land of Uz (1:1), located in Edom (southeast of the Dead Sea), was adjacent to Midian, where Moses lived for forty years, and it is conceivable that Moses obtained a record of the dialogue left by Job or Elihu.

- **Key Word:** *God’s Sovereignty*

- **Key Verses:** **Job 13:15-** *Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.* **Job 37:23-24-** *As for the Almighty, we cannot find Him; He is excellent in power, in judgment and abundant justice; He does not oppress. Therefore men fear Him; He shows no partiality to any who are wise of heart."*

- **Key Chapter:** **Ch. 42-** Job recognizes the sovereignty of the LORD and repents, no longer asking the “why” of his plight.

- **Theme of the book:** Why do the righteous suffer if God is loving and all-powerful? Job learns from his suffering and realizes the sovereignty of the Almighty. Job will discover his own pride and self-righteousness; he will humble himself and trust in the faithfulness of God. Suffering is not always associated with sin; God often sovereignly uses it to test, teach, and testify his majesty to all!

- **Christ in the Book of JOB:** In Ch. 19:25-27 Job acknowledges a **Redeemer** and asks for a **Mediator** (9:33; 25:4; 33:23). Christ identifies with our sufferings (Heb 4:15-16- *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*) Christ is the believer’s Life, Redeemer; Mediator; and Advocate.

- **Book Outline:**

- **The Conflict-** Chapters 1 - 2
- **The Confrontation-** Chapters 3 – 37
- **The Controversy-** Chapters 38 – 41
- **The Confession-** Chapter 42

- **Job is also mentioned in Ezekiel 14:14 -** *Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD. Ezekiel 14:19-20 - "Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast, even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness."*

- **Job is mentioned in the New Testament- James 5:10-11-** *My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord -- that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.*

Chapter 1- "Good vs. Evil"

(v1) Job's character- "blameless, upright, feared God & shunned evil"

(v2-4) Job's family & wealth

(v5) Job's worship & intercession

(v6-7) Satan's desire- 1 Peter 5:8-11 - *Be sober, be vigilant; **because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith,** knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

(v8-12) Satan's accusations - Revelation 12:10-12 - *Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. **And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.** Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."*

(v13-19) Satan's assault - Devastation & Destruction!

> **UNDERSTAND YOUR ENEMY! - SATAN (adversary)** - the great opposer, of God and man.

Another common name for Satan in the New Testament is "the devil," meaning "slanderer" or "false accuser." Other titles by which Satan is identified in the New Testament include "the tempter" (1 Thess 3:5); "Beelzebub" (Matt 12:24); "the wicked one" (Matt 13:19,38); "the ruler of this world" (John 12:31); "the god of this age" (2 Cor 4:4); "Belial" (2 Cor 6:15), "the prince of the power of the air" (Eph 2:2); and "the accuser of our brethren" (Rev 12:10).

- **History** - Two Old Testament passages - Isa 14:12-15 and Ezek 28:11-19-furnish a picture of Satan's original condition and the reasons for his loss of that position. These passages were addressed originally to the kings of Babylon and Tyre. But in their long-range implications, many scholars believe, they refer to Satan himself. They tell of an exalted angelic being, one of God's creatures, who became proud and ambitious. He determined to take over the throne of God for himself. But God removed him from his position of great dignity and honor. Building upon this foundation, Rev 12 sketches the further stages in Satan's work of evil. In his fall from God's favor, Satan persuaded one third of the angels to join him in his rebellion (Rev 12:3-4). Throughout the Old Testament period he sought to destroy the messianic line. When the Messiah became a man, Satan tried to eliminate Him (Rev 12:4-5). During the future period of tribulation before the Messiah's second coming, Satan will be cast out of the heavenly sphere (Rev 12:7-12). Then he will direct his animosity toward the Messiah's people (Rev 12:13-17). Rev 20 notes the final phases of Satan's work. He will be bound for a thousand years and then finally cast into the lake of fire (Rev 20:2,10).

- **Characteristics** - Satan has "the power of death," because "the sting of death is sin" (1 Cor 15:56); Satan being author of sin is author of its consequence, death. God's law (Gen 2:17; Rom 6:23) makes death the executioner of sin, and man Satan's "lawful captive." Jesus by His death gave death its deathblow and took the prey from the mighty; as David cut off Goliath's head with his own sword (Matt 12:29; Luke 10:19; Isa 49:24; 2 Tim 1:10; Ps 8:2; Heb 2:14). "Christ ... through death ... destroy (katargeesee, render powerless) him that had the power of death." Satan seeks to "get an advantage of" believers (2 Cor 2:11); he has "devices" (noemata) and "wiles" (methodeias, methodical stratagems)

(Eph 6:11), and "snares" (1 Tim 3:7), "transforming himself (Greek) into an angel of light," though "prince of darkness" (2 Cor 11:14; Luke 22:53; Eph 6:12). "Satan hinders" good undertakings by evil men (Acts 13:10; 17:13-14; 3:8-10), or even by "messengers of Satan," sicknesses, etc. (2 Cor 11:14; 12:7; 1 Thess 2:18; Luke 13:16). Satan works or energizes in and through antichrist (2 Thess 2:9; Rev 13:2) in opposition to the Holy Spirit energizing in the church (Eph 1:19). The wanton turn aside from Christ the spouse after Satan the seducer (1 Tim 5:11-15). The believer's victory by "the God of peace bruising Satan" is foretold from the first (Gen 3:15; Rom 16:20). The opposition of Satan in spite of himself will be overruled to the believer's good, the latter thereby learning patience, submission, faith, and so his end being blessed, as in Job's case. Man can in God's strength "resist Satan" (James 4:7); by withholding consent of the will, man gives Satan no "place," room or scope (Eph 4:27). "The wicked one toucheth not" the saint, as he could not touch Christ (1 John 5:18; John 14:30). Self-restraint and watchfulness are our safeguards (1 Peter 5:8). As a result of his original status and authority, Satan has great power and dignity. So great is his strength that Michael the archangel viewed him as a foe too powerful to oppose (Jude 9). Satan's influence in worldly affairs is also clearly revealed (John 12:31). His various titles reflect his control of the world system: "the ruler of this world" (John 12:31), "the god of this age" (2 Cor 4:4), and "the prince of the power of the air" (Eph 2:2). The Bible declares, "The whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one" (1 John 5:19). Satan exercises his evil power through demons (Matt 12:24; 25:41; Rev 12:7,9). An outburst of demonic activity occurred when Jesus came to earth the first time because of the Savior's attack against Satan's kingdom (Matt 12:28-29; Acts 10:38). Another such outburst is expected just before the second coming of Christ, because this will bring about the downfall of Satan and his angels (Rev 9:3-17; 12:12; 18:2)

(v20-22) Job's strength is: *Worship, Trust & Prayer!* - Proverbs 3:5-8 - *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.*

Chapter 2- "The Evil One Strikes Again!"

(v1-8) Satan's attack boils over! - Paul teaches us how to overcome - 2 Corinthians 12:1-10- HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT!

(v9-10) Satan attacks our marriages - Fight back! (James 3:13-18 Are you using wisdom from above for your marriage? Are your motives pure? Is your speech peaceable? Is your life gentle? Are you willing to yield? Are you full of mercy? Are you bearing good fruit? Are you impartial? Are you living without hypocrisy?)

(v11-13) Be a friend to the hurting, how? Romans 12:15-16 - Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

> In the time of trial listen to James & Peter- James 1:2-5 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 1 Peter 1:3-8- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love.

Poem:

“Don’t Quit!”

*When things go wrong
As they sometimes will,
When the road you’re
Trudging seems all uphill,*

*When the funds are low,
And the debts are high,
And you want to smile,
But you have to sigh,*

*When care is pressing
You down a bit-
Rest if you must,
But don’t you quit.*

*Success is failure
Turned inside out,
The silver tint of
The clouds of doubt,*

*And you never can tell
How close you are,
It may be near when,
It seems afar,*

*So, stick to the fight
When you’re hardest hit.
It’s when things go wrong
That you mustn’t quit!*

Author unknown.