

Bible Study book of "Job"

1. Background

- a. Date of writing is sometime around 1400-1600 BC Contemporary of Patriarchs, sometime between Noah and Moses, probably time period of Isaac and Jacob.
 - i. Possible to be of lineage of Nahor who was Abrahams brother whose first born was named Uz which is where Job was from Gen. 22:21
 - ii. Whose family religion was kept for generations Gen. 31:53
 - iii. Is where Rebekah came from
 - iv. Lived before the life span of man was shortened.
 - v. God was known as "God Almighty" not Jehovah. He is called "Shadda" which means Almighty 31 times
- b. The Jews were no friend of Job, he was a stranger to commonwealth of Israel
 - i. Book has always been retained in Bible
 - ii. James in 5:11 and 1Corr.3:19 in NT both refer to Job
 - iii. Ezekiel names Job along with Noah and Daniel.
- c. Elihu is named as probably author by Mathew Henry Commentary
- d. Job himself being an Arabian sage is named by another source.
- e. Solomon or even Moses are other possible authors.

2. Questions brought to Mind

- a. Does God Govern justly?
- b. Why Serve Him?

3. Job Worshipped “God” in the midst of his Physical suffering and told his wife “Shall we accept good from God and not trouble.” Job 2:10
4. Breakdown of Job Weekly Studies
 - a. Job’s Distress Job 1:1 thru 3:26
 - b. 1st Cycle of Speeches Part A Job 4:1 thru 10:22
 - c. 1st Cycle of Speeches Part B Job 11:1 thru 14:22
 - d. 2nd Round of Speeches Job 15:1 thru 21:34
 - e. 3rd Round of Speeches Job 22:1 thru 27:23
 - f. Interlude Poem on Wisdom Job 28:1 thru 37:24
 - g. God’s Response and Jobs response Job 38:1 thru 42:17

Job’s Distress Job 1:1 thru 3:26

1) First 3 chapters introduce Job

- a) Not Religious Fiction Ez 14:14,20; James 5:11
- b) Lived in Land of Uz
- c) Family
 - i) 7 sons and 3 daughters
 - ii) Edom nearby
 - iii) Very Rich, perfect and upright-Integrity
 - iv) 7, 0000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yokes of oxen, 500 female donkeys, men and women to run this size of operation.
- v) **Foundation for Job’s character was that “he feared God and shunned Evil”**

vi) Accounts of Job's piety and prosperity come before his affliction and to show us that riches will not secure us from calamities.

vii) Sacrifices for children

2) Chapter 1

a) Verses 1-5 sets the background

b) First Episode 1:6-22

i) Dialogue in Heaven between God and Satan 6-12

ii) Affliction of Job 1:13-19

(1) In one day he was stripped of everything except health

(2) 4 messengers

(a) Wealth Gone

(b) Family gone

(3) How does Job respond: "God is sovereign in all things"

(4) Calls him the "Almighty" Key name for God, used 31 times in Book of Job.

(a) Satan has access to God's throne in Heaven. He won't be locked in the lake of fire until the end of times, until then he is free to roam the earth at will.

(5) Job's children were the last to be taken because they were the most important to Job.

(6) Job's response to this Verses 1:21-22

(a) Job expressed grief

(b) Then worshipped God and uttered profound statement of Faith.

(i) PS 139:13-15

(ii) 1Tim 6:7

(iii) How will we leave this earth?

3) Chapter 2

- a) Satan attacks Job's health Verses 2:1-8; 1 Corr. 10:13
 - i) Painful boils but Satan cannot take Job's life.
 - ii) Wife tells him to curse God and die.
- b) Not all physical afflictions come directly from the evil one although some do.
 - i) Blindness Matt. 12:22
 - ii) Dumbness (mute-hearing) Matt 9:32-33
 - iii) Physical Deformities Luke 13:11-17
 - iv) Incessant Pain 2 Corr.12:7
 - v) Insanity Matt 8:28-34
- c) So bad did Job look that he fled society and sat on the Ash heap (garbage dump) and scraped his boils with pieces of broken pottery
- d) Wife's comments V 2:9-10
- e) Job's three friends V 2:11-13
 - i) Friends who only make things worse
 - ii) Cared enough to travel a long distance, sat on garbage dump with him, tore their clothes and sprinkled ashes upon themselves
 - iii) Names descended from Abraham
 - (1) Eliphaz descended from Teman the grandson of Esau, from Northern Edom
 - (2) Bildad from Shuah, Abraham's son by Keturah

- (3) Zophar is thought to be from Zepho descendant from Esau
- iv) They sat for 7 days with Job silently
- f) “the preserving of so much wisdom and piety among those that were strangers to the covenant of promise is a happy presage of God’s Grace to the Gentiles”

4) Chapter 3 Job Speaks

- a) Job spoke not to curse God but to curse the day of his birth
 - i) Why was I born Jerm. 20:14-18
 - ii) Cursed the night of his conception and his day of birth. Jerm. 20:14-18
 - iii) 4 questions of why that only God can answer : Verses 3:11-12
 - iv) Wanted to be in Sheol V 3:13-22
- b) Shares a secret that a feeling of something was about to happen had come upon him V 3:25
- c) Unfortunate that friend seized upon Lament instead of the statement of faith.