

6/16/19, 6/16/02

**Job A True And Tried Father**  
**Job 1-2**

Many people in our day deny God because they cannot believe in a God of love that would allow evil and suffering that goes on in the world.

1. Children that are born blind or deformed?
  2. Innocent people brutally murdered and abused?
  3. The injustices that goes on to continue?
- \* This world is the result of constant rebellion of man against God, the work of his evil heart. Rom. 1

And there is no greater area of man's failure in our society than that of fathers in their homes.

1. Some men father children and do not marry the mother of the child and want to act out the father role while remaining single in life-style of unnatural love.
2. Other men are fathers, but are not the best examples, if not plain bad examples to their children.
3. Still others are just not around to teach, direct and supervise their children, leaving them to themselves.

Yet despite man's sin nature, God transforms some men to become godly fathers to please God and there is no greater example of a father who please God than Job a man of character who was a God-fearing father. The book of Job reveals to us a father who goes through extreme sufferings while all along clinging to his relationship with God by a three-fold division.

**I. The book of Job.**

- II. The man Job.**
- III. The integrity of Job.**

**I. The book of Job.**

- A. The type of literature or genre.**
  1. The book of Job is one of five books categorized as books of poetry, sometimes called the books of wisdom.
    - \* The five are Job, Psalms. Proverbs. Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon.
  2. The Jewish canon has Job between Proverbs and the Song of Solomon, the "writings".
    - a. The Jewish canon is divided into three sections, Law, Prophets and the Writings.
    - b. The book of Job was not designated for public reading in the synagogues, as others, but more for private reading.
  3. The English canon divides into five sections.
    - a. Law, the five books of Moses, called the Pentateuch.
    - b. History, Joshua to Esther.
    - c. Poetry, Job to Song of Solomon.
    - d. Major prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah Ezekiel and Daniel.
    - e. Minor prophets, the remaining twelve from Hosea to Malachi.
      - \* Major and Minor distinguishing length not importance.
  4. Hebrew poetry is contrary to our form of rhyme and sound, but on parallelism to emphasize the message and meaning.

6. The book of Job is written in Hebrew.
    - a. It is written in prose. Job 1:1-2:13; 32:1-5; 42:7-17
    - b. But the majority of it is written in poetry.
- B.** The authenticity of the book.
1. Some see Job as a mere story and link it to stories from Babylon, Egypt, Iranian and Indian folklore by an unknown author.
  2. Others ascribe the book to Job himself since the book bears his name.
  3. The book of Genesis mentions a Jobab which some believe may be Job? Gen. 36:33
  4. Jeremiah, says the land of Uz was east of Palestine and west of Arabia., N. E. of Idumea towards the Euphrates River, Gentiles country. Jer. 25:20; Lam. 4:21
  5. Ezekiel attested to the existence of Job in the context of an able intercessor between God and man. Ezk. 14:14, 20; Job 42:8
  6. James speaks of the perseverance of Job using him as the object lesson of the Lord's compassion and mercy. Ja. 5:11
  8. The date varies from Moses to Ezra, but the internal evidences would date it at the time of Abraham, the oldest book of the Bible.
- C.** The characters in the book of Job.
1. The protagonist is the leading man Job, a blameless and upright man who feared God and turned away from evil. Job 1:1-3

- \* If he is the Jobab of Genesis, he is the grandson of Esau and great-grandson of Abraham. Gen. 36:33
2. The writer and director is God, who is Lord of all. Job 1:8; 2:1
  3. The antagonist is Satan who was expelled from heaven and is the enemy of God and man. Job 1:7; 2:2
  4. The supporting actors are three friends of Job. Job 2:11
    - a. Eliphaz the Temanite was a descendant of Esau. Gen. 36:11
    - b. Bildad the Shuhite was a descendant of Abraham and Keturah. Gen. 25:2
    - c. Zophar the Naamathite is unknown.
  5. The villain is Elihu the Buzite a descendant of Abraham's brother Nahor. Job 32:2; Gen. 22:21
  6. Job is the man remembered for trusting God despite horrible sufferings and apposition by all, including his wife and close companion.
  7. What was this man's secret? Nothing but his love for God, "even though You slay me, yet will I trust in You." Job 13:15
- D.** The division.
1. Prologue. Job 1-2
  2. Dialogue. Job 3-31
  3. Monologue. Job 32-37
  4. Dialogue. Job 38-42:6
  5. Epilogue. 42:7-17

\* Job is a faithful obedient servant of God!

### **Illustration**

J. Adam Clark was told one day by a famous children's specialist the following, "When it comes to a serious illness, the child who has been taught to obey stands four times the chance of recovery that the spoiled and undisciplined child does." The words made a lasting impression upon him. Up to that time he said, "I had been taught that one of the Ten Commandments was for children to obey their parents. Never had it entered my mind that a question of obedience might mean the saving or losing of a child's life." #634

\* Obedience is both training and protection!

### **Application**

Many have asked the purpose of the book of Job.

1. The book of Job does not help us understand why we suffer, but it reveals how wrong we can be in our understanding of suffering, as a result of our limited knowledge of the facts and how much God may be involved in our sufferings and others as well.

\* Jn. 18:33; Acts 14:22; Rom. 5:3-5; 2Cor. 4:16-18; 1Pet. 2:21-22; 4:19; Rev. 1:9

2. Also how God can and does use adversity and suffering for His purposes for our maturity in faith and that He is sufficient for our particular sufferings.

3. How God can use Satan as an instrument for His purposes, setting the boundaries.

4. How both good and evil men suffer, but at the end the righteous are vindicated by God and the evil condemned. The purpose of the book of Job is simply that "God is sufficient for our sufferings"

5. The theme of the book of Job is the purposes of God through human suffering and the problem of understanding suffering in relationship to the individual and God!

- a. God is revealed as Creator, all powerful.
- b. God is mentioned by His name Yahweh only twice. Job 1:21; 12:9
- c. God is identified by the names, "El", "Eloah", "El-Shaddai".
- d. God is worshipped after the Patriarchal fashion.

***This is the book of Job!***

## **II. The man Job.**

A. Job was a man of character by reputation. Job 1:1

\* "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."

1. He was a man who lived in the land of Uz, between Edom and Arabia near the Euphrates River. Jer. 25:20; Lam. 4:21
2. The name Job means "enmity, hostility", "inveterate foe" "to persecute or be an enemy" "hated", being very relevant to his recorded experience. Gen. 22:17; Ex. 23:22

3. He was “blameless”, which speaks of his character before men.
4. He was “upright” referring to straight or righteous toward men.
5. He “feared God,” which is the basic foundation of wisdom.
  - \* The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge and wisdom. Prov. 1:7; 9:10
6. He “shunned evil”, meaning the he turned away from evil when it presented itself.
  - \* The two tables of the law represent righteousness as the result of godliness!

**B.** Job was a loyal family man. Job 1:2

1. Job the father had been blessed by God with children, “And seven sons and three daughters were born to him.”
  - a. Children were a sign of God’s favor.
  - b. Children procured one’s care in old age.
  - c. Sons being more valuable to the family.
    - \* “Behold, children are a **heritage** from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.” Ps. 127:3
2. Job was married and had a wife. Job 2:9
  - a. A wife is to be a man’s help-meet, one comparable to him for life to complete him, this was God’s purpose. Gen. 2:18
  - b. Proverbs says, “He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.” Prov. 18:22

- c. “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame *is* like rottenness in his bones.” Prov. 12:4

**C.** Job was a wealthy and wise man. Job 1:3

1. He had seven thousand sheep
2. He had three thousand camels.
3. He had five hundred yoke of oxen.
4. He had five hundred female donkeys.
5. He had a very large household.
6. He was that the greatest of all the people of the East.
7. He was blessed by God with possessions and wisdom above all the men of the East.

**D.** Job was a faithful high priest of his home. Job 1:4-5

1. His children would feast with one another in their houses and were under his covering, “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.” Job 1:4
2. His fatherly love did not blind him to the potential of evil in his children, “So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and rise up 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.” Job 1:5

- a. Job offered up burnt offerings symbolic of dedication and consecration to God.
  - 1) These sacrifices preceded the Mosaic law, but were close enough to Noah’s days who offered sacrifice who lived close to Adam and Eve.
  - 2) Seth died fourteen years before Noah was born.
    - a) Seth died 1042 B.C. and Noah was born 1056 B.C.
    - b) Adam died 930 B. C., so Noah was born one-hundred and twenty-six years after Adam’s death.
- b. Job offered sacrifices in case his children might have cursed God in their hearts.
- c. Job did this “regularly” as a faithful and loving father and high priest of his home, pleading God’s mercy.
  - \* He knew of the judgment of God on the world through the flood!

E. Job was a man whom God allowed to be tested through great sufferings. Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7

- \* We must keep in mind that the first two chapters that are available to us, but not Job, they are two scenes in heaven of Satan presented himself before God.
  - 1. The first scene deals with the test of Job’s character. Job 1:6-12

- a. The throne of God in heaven is the location, “Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.” vs. 6
- b. The initiator is God. vs. 7-8
  - 1) God inquired about Satan’s activities, not for His knowledge but for ours, And the LORD said to Satan, “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.” vs. 7
  - 2) God is the One who suggested the testing to Satan, “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?” vs. 8
    - a) The word “considered” is a military term indicating the most strategic location from which he might defeat Job.
    - b) God is boasting of his servant as a man of character and godliness!
      - \* Job was completely ignorant about the events and conversations before the throne of God of the two chapters!
- c. The responder is Satan. vs. 9-11

- 1) Satan implied that Job served God for what he was getting from Him, “So Satan answered the LORD and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing?” vs. 9
  - 2) Satan pointed out that God protected Job and all that belonged to him and blessed him financially, “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. vs. 10
    - \* Inspiration guarantees the accurate record of the words stated, but it does not mean all recorded words are God’s revelation of Biblical truth or doctrine, like the words of Satan to Eve, “You shall not surely die” or the ones recorded in the book of Job.
  - 3) Satan proclaimed that if this protection was removed Job would reveal his true character, “But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!” vs. 11
- d. The one in control is God. vs. 12
- 1) God knew the outcome of Job’s testing, so God gave permission to Satan, “And the LORD said to Satan,

- “Behold, all that he has is in your power.” vs. 12a-c
- 2) God placed the limitations, “Only do not lay a hand on his person.” vs. 12d
  - 3) Satan did only what God allowed, “So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD”. vs. 12e
    - \* God tells us that He will never allow us to be tested more than we are able to bear, but with every testing will show us the way of escape. 1Cor. 10:13
    - \* If we fail, it is to not abide and depend on Jesus!
2. The second scene deals with the test of Job’s health. Job 2:1-7
- a. The throne of God in heaven is the location once again, “Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.” vs. 1
  - b. The initiator once again is God. vs. 2-3
    - 1) God inquired about Satan’s activities once again, not for His knowledge but for ours, “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.” vs. 2

- 2) God again suggested the testing to Satan, “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.” vs. 3
- a) God used the same word again “considered” is a military term indicating the most strategic location from which he might defeat Job.
- b) God again is boasting of his servant as a man of character and godliness, maintaining his integrity even though he, Satan, petitioned God to destroy him without a cause!
- c. The responder is Satan. vs. 4-5
- 1) Satan implies this time that Job serves God for his appreciable health, “So Satan answered the LORD and said, “Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.” vs. 4
- 2) Satan proclaimed that He was protecting Job’s health and that if He allowed sickness and weakness to come upon Job, he would truly reveal his true character, “But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone

- and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!” vs. 5
- d. The one in control is God. vs. 6-7
- 1) God knew again the outcome of Job’s testing and gave permission to Satan, “And the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, he is in your hand”. vs. 6a-c
- 2) God placed again the limitations, “But spare his life”. vs. 6d
- 3) Satan did only what God allowed, “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. “ vs. 7
- \* Everyone knows who Job is, even the unbelievers in the world!

### Illustration

There were two sons in the Taylor family in England. The older one set out to make a name for the family and turned his attention toward Parliament and prestige. But Hudson Taylor, the younger, chose to give his life to Christ, so he turned his face toward China and obscurity. Hudson Taylor is known and honored on every continent as a faithful missionary and as the founder of the China Inland Mission. But when you look in the encyclopedia to see what the other son has done, you find these words, “The brother of Hudson Taylor.” #5324

### Application

1. The most important thing in our lives Fathers is to be a man of character from the heart, not merely interested in an outward reputation without character.  
\* “Discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you, to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perverse things.” Prov. 2:11-12
2. Throughout the Old and New Testament the family is God’s focused relationship and teaching in order to be in fellowship with God and man to affect society.
  - a. Paul says, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.” Eph. 6:4
  - b. “Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.” Col. 3:21
3. The Father is the High Priesthood and head of the home, a type of Christ, the head of the church. Eph. 5:23
  - a. The father is to lead in spiritual matters, supported by his wife, praying and interceding for his children.
  - b. The father is to exhort and warn his children of the evil of worldliness and sin. Prov. 1-9
  - c. The father is to set the boundaries and the consequences for disciple and chastening, both are necessary. Heb. 12:7
    - 1) “Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.” Prov. 19:18
    - 2) “He who spares his **rod** hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly. “Prov. 13:24

- 3) “Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The **rod** of correction will drive it far from him.” Prov. 22:15
- 4) “Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a **rod**, he will not die.” Prov. 23:13
4. The strong warnings of failing in fatherhood is recorded purposely throughout the Scriptures.
  - a. Eli did not restrain his children from the evil, so God judged him. 1Sam. 1:22-3:21
  - b. David was the King who failed as a parent and father. 2Sam. 13-19
5. Fathers one of the greatest lessons you will impart to your children will be through your own sufferings and testings, as you remain faithful and obedience through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit of God.  
\* “Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.” 1Pet. 4:19

***This was the man Job!***

### **III. The integrity of Job.**

- A. Job revealed he did not serve God for what he was getting from God, fearing Him only due to the protection of his own person, family and financial prosperity. Job 1:13-22
  1. The first trial and testing. Job 1:13-19
    - a. His children were feasting as usual in the oldest brothers house when the Sabeans

raided and took the oxen and donkeys as well as killing the servants with the edge of the sword, the messenger alone had escaped to tell him. vs. 13-15

**b.** While he was still speaking, another one came telling him that the fire of God fell from heaven “lightening” and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them, he alone had escaped to tell him. vs. 16-17

**c.** While the servant was speaking, another came declaring his sons and daughters were eating and drinking in the house of the oldest brother when all of a sudden a great wind came from across the wilderness killing all of his children, he alone had escaped to tell him. vs. 18-19

\* There would be no one to carry out his name, care for him in his old age nor mourn his death!

**2.** The first evidence of Job’s integrity is three-fold. vs. 20-22

**a.** The love of Job for God, “Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped”. vs. 20

**1)** The tearing of the clothes and shaving of the head was symbolic of grief.

**2)** The physical posture of falling to the ground was of humiliation and reverence towards God.

**3)** The spiritual posture of heart was the worship of God, the word for worship “shachah” means to do obeisance, stoop or crouch before a superior.

**b.** The perspective of Job regarding all that is attained in this life, including children, “Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD”. vs. 21

**1)** No one ever takes anything to the grave with him.

**2)** All that is acquired in this life is given by God and He can take it away whenever He wills.

**3)** All should speak well of God whether he gives or takes away.

**c.** The clear understanding of Job about God’s sovereignty, “In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.” vs. 22

**1)** He did not fail in his love for God, “in all this Job did not sin”.

\* Joseph said to Potiphar’s wife, “How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God”. Gen. 39:9c-d

**2)** He did not allow the situation or circumstance to believe that God did not know what He was doing, “Nor charged God foolishly”.

\* Foolishly means in emptiness!

- B.** Job revealed that he did not serve God for his appreciable health. Job 2:7-10
1. The second trial and testing. Job 2:7-8
    - a. “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. vs. 7
      - \* He experienced inflamed spots with intense itching over his entire body.
    - b. Job attempted to get some relief, “And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.” vs. 8
      - 1) He sat in the midst of ashes which some believe refers to rubbish heap.
      - 2) He sat as a social outcast, when at one time he was considered the greatest person of the East.
  2. The second evidence of Job’s integrity was again three-fold. vs. 9-10
    - a. Job’s love for God was greater than his love for his wife, “Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!” But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks”. vs. 9-10b
      - 1) His wife could have been bitter against God for what had happen to Job.

\* Tempting as a type of Eve instead of being his help-meet!

- 2) Or his wife could have been expressing her love for him, not being able to bear to see him suffer any longer and hoped that all would end?
    - \* We cannot be certain!
  - 3) But he rebuked her strongly, even in his pitiful condition telling her that she was speaking as one of the foolish women.
- b. Job’s perspective regarding what we can receive from God, “Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity? vs. 10c
  - c. Job’s understanding regarding the sovereignty of God was repeated, “In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” vs. 10d
    - 1) His love for God kept him from sin.
    - 2) His situation or emotions once again did not dictate his theology, God knew what He was doing!
- C.** Job revealed the secret of his integrity.
- \* These in affect are key versus of the book!
1. His love for God was more than anything or person, “Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped”, “But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks.. Job 1:20; 210a-b

2. His perspective on wealth and health was clear, “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”, “Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?”, Job 1:21, 2:10c-d

### **Illustration**

Hudson Taylor was interviewing some young people who had volunteered for the Lord's service. He asked several practical questions to find out how well qualified they were for the life they were anticipating. “And why do you wish to go as a foreign missionary?” “I want to reach others across the sea because Christ has commanded us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature,” one replied. Another said, “I want to go because millions are dying without ever having heard of Jesus, the only One who can save them.” Others have similar answers.

Hudson Taylor looked at them thoughtfully for a moment and then said, “All of your motives are good, but I fear they will fail you in times of severe testing and tribulation especially if you are confronted with the possibility of having to face death for your testimony. The only motive that will enable you to remain true is stated in II Corinthians 5:14. Christ’s love constraining you will keep you faithful in every situation.” -Our Daily Bread #3224

### **Application**

1. Fathers, our life needs to reveal to our children we do not serve God just because He has prospered us financially or that we fear Him only that He might protect us and the family.
2. Fathers, what will happen when you are hurt or fall to some illness, what will it reveal to your children?
3. Fathers, you need to know the secret place of the Most High as Job.
  - a. His love for God was more than anything or person. 1:1:20, 210a-b
  - b. His commitment to persevere unto death, “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.” Job 13:15a-b
  - c. His confidence in the future resurrection, “For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!” Job 19:25-27
  - d. His confidence in God to purify him through the testing, “But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.” Job 23:10
  - e. His belief was that character is important above reputation, “As God lives, who has taken away my justice, And the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, As long as my breath is in me, And the breath of God in my nostrils, My lips

will not speak wickedness, Nor my tongue utter deceit. Far be it from me That I should say you are right; Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me. My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; My heart shall not reproach me as long as I live.” Job 27:2-6

- f. Job was used to pray for his miserable friends and God restored him by giving him twice as he had before, “And the LORD restored Job’s losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.” Job 42:10

***This was the integrity of Job!***

### **Conclusion**

The book of Job has revealed to us a father under extreme sufferings while all along clinging to his relationship with God by this three-fold division.

- I.** The book of Job!
- II.** The man Job!
- III.** The integrity of Job!