

# Job

## Suffering - Persuasion to Repent?

Job 3-14

Gathering: When have you been accused of something when you were completely innocent?

Today's Focus: Job's friends urge Job to admit his sin and repent to God so he can be restored.

Key Verses: *Blessed is the man whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.* Job 5:17

*[Did you not] clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews? You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit.*  
Job 10:11-12

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Review of Study 1 (*Job - A Righteous Man Suffers*)

#### Introduction

WHEN was the book written? = Around 1800 BC (Isaac), Probably world's oldest book  
WHERE did the story occur? = Uz (Shem's grandson), Between Canaan & Euphrates  
HOW is the book written? = Hebrew Poetry (Parallelism), First OT book of poetry  
WHO is the story about? = Job, blameless & upright, feared God, Greatest in east  
Is *the patience of Job* a good descriptor of Job? = Yes and no  
Why or Why not? = Initial response, yes. Most of book, no – but normal

#### Job Loses His Belongings - Chapter 1

What do we learn about Job (v1-5)? = High integrity, Righteous, sacrificed just in case  
What did God think of Job (v8)? = *Blameless & upright*; He was proud of Job  
What does Satan ask God to do (v11)? = Take away Job's blessings to test Job  
How does God respond (v12)? = Allows Satan to do so within limits; God in control  
What did Satan take to make Job suffer (v19)? = Property, business, family  
How did Job respond to his loss (v20-22)? = Mourned losses, but blessed God  
Did Satan win this battle? = No, Job proved Satan wrong

#### Job Loses His Health - Chapter 2

What did God think of Job (v3)? = *Blameless & upright*; proud of Job's response  
What does Satan ask God to do (v5)? = Afflict Job himself to test Job  
How does God respond (v6)? = Allows Satan to do so within limits; God in control  
What did Satan take to make Job suffer (v7)? = Health; gave painful boils  
What advice was Job given (v9)? = *Curse God and die*  
How did Job respond to this advice (v10)? = Accepted whatever God gave  
Did Satan win this battle? = No, Job proved Satan wrong

#### Summary

Was Job suffering as the result of a serious sin or sins? = No  
What had Job done to deserve his suffering? = Nothing  
Had God sent the suffering to test Job? = No, he allowed Satan  
Did Job realize the reasons behind his suffering? = No  
Was Job happy about what had happened? = No, he was filled with grief

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### Job Breaks the Silence - Chapter 3

How did Job's friends try to comfort Job in his misery? = Customary to mourn 7 days for the dead

Job 2:13 = They sat with him 7 days & nights without saying anything

Who broke the silence and what did he have to say?

Job 3:1 = Job cursed the day he was born

For what did Job cry? = Why was I born? Being born, why did I live? Having lived, why can't I die?

Job 3:3-4, 10 (1-10) = Cursed day of birth, it didn't keep him in womb away from trouble

Job 3:3, 7 = Cursed night he was conceived - Hebrew *horah* means *conceived* (not born as NIV)

Job 3:11-13 (11-19) = Wished he died at birth or stillborn (v16), would be at peace & at rest

Job 3:20-21, 26 (20-26) = Longed for death; had no peace, quietness, rest - only trouble

### Eliphaz's Cause and Solution - Chapters 4 & 5

How did Eliphaz respond to Job's cries? = You're a lousy example to others

Job 4:1, 3, 5 (1-6) = You encouraged others but are quick to lose heart when you see trouble

What did Eliphaz understand to be the cause of Job's troubles? = You reap what you sow

Job 4:7-8 (7-11) = Only the evil receive trouble, the innocent never perish

How did Eliphaz gain this profound insight? = Spirit said even angels are sinful and man is worse

Job 4:12-13 (12-21) = He was given a vision, at night while others were sleeping

How did Eliphaz explain situations when good things happen to bad people?

Job 5:3, 7 (1-7) = Things may start good for a fool (wicked one), but not for long

What was Eliphaz's solution? = God won't let the evil win (11-16), nor the good to have troubles (18-26)

Job 5:8, 17-18 (8-27) = Repent to God, accept His discipline and He will restore you

Was Eliphaz's evaluation and advice correct? = No, Job was innocent

How common is this *you get what you deserve* philosophy today?

What is dangerous about Eliphaz's claim to special insight?

Have you heard anyone tell someone else *God told me to tell you ...* ?

Why is such a claim so dangerous?

### Job's Response - Chapters 6 & 7

How did Job respond to Eliphaz?

Job 6:1-3 (1-13) = You don't realize the agony I'm in and that I'm too weak to go on

What did Job think of his friends' support?

Job 6:14, 21 (14-23) = Friends should be kind to the troubled, you are of no help

How did he respond to Eliphaz's call to repent of his evil so God would restore him?

Job 6:24 (24-30) = If I have done wrong, tell me what I did

What else did Job cry out?

Job 7:4-5 (1-5) = I'm in misery, I can't sleep, my skin has worms & is festering

What did Job conclude to be God's plan for him?

Job 7:8 (6-10) = I will die soon and be forgotten

What does Job then ask God? = Why can't you leave me alone? Please forgive any sin I might have done

Job 7:17-20 (11-21) = God, what have I done to become such a burden to you?

Did Job agree with Eliphaz's analysis? = No, but asked God just in case

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### Bildad's Cause and Solution - Chapter 8

What did Bildad understand to be the cause of Job's troubles?

Job 8:1,4 (1-4) = Job's children were sinful

What was Bildad's solution?

Job 8:5-6 (5-7) = Plead to God, be pure & upright, then God will respond and restore you

Where did Bildad gain this profound insight? = Those who forget God will perish, Remember God and live

Job 8:8,10 (8-22) = From the wisdom of the elders

Was Bildad correct? = No, Job's children were innocent, God cannot be manipulated by man

### Job's Response to Bildad - Chapters 9 & 10

What did Job think about the idea of pleading his case to God?

Job 9:2-4, 20 (1-20) = No way to appear righteous before God, Too great & strong to approach

Was Job trying to claim he was wrongly accuse of evil in order to save his life? = No concern for his life

Job 9:21-22, 29 (21-31) = No, God destroys both blameless & wicked, Why should he fight it?

What did Job need to be able to plead his case before God?

Job 9:33 (32-35) = Someone to arbitrate between him and God

Since he didn't feel he could argue his case before God, what would Job say to God?

Job 10:2 (1-7) = What charges do you have against me? Why blame me when I am blameless?

What especially confused Job about God?

Job 10:8-11, 18 (8-22) = Why did you take such care to create me only to destroy me?

### Zophar's Cause and Solution - Chapter 11

How did Zophar respond to Job's continuous claims of innocence? = v7, God hasn't punished you enough

Job 11:1-3 (1-6) = How dare you mock God and claim innocence while God is punishing you!

What was Zophar's explanation for the confusion?

Job 11:7, 12 (7-12) = Job could not hope to understand God's wisdom in this

What was Zophar's solution?

Job 11:13-15 (13-20) = Devote self to God & put away sin, then God will remove troubles

Was Zophar correct? = No, same as others

### Job's Replies to His Friends' Wisdom - Chapter 12

Did Job get humble, repentant, sarcastic or angry with his friends?

Job 12:1-3 (1-3) = Sarcastic - You know it all & have all the wisdom, but I can think too

How did Job feel about his friends' concern for him?

Job 12:4 (4-6) = They were mocking him and claiming things that are clearly not true (v6)

Was it news to Job that God might be in control of his situation?

Job 12:7-9 (7-12) = Even the animals, birds, fish & earth know God is in control

What did Job feel that his friends need to understand about God?

Job 12:13-15 (13-25) = God can do anything he wants, whether we understand it or not

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### Job Looks to the Wisest - Chapter 13

Who did Job say had the real wisdom? = v7-12 – His friends wouldn't be able to stand before God  
Job 13:3-5 (1-12) = Let me speak to God, you're quacks, you're wisest when you say nothing  
What did Job want his friends to do? = v15 – God may kill me, but I'll defend myself because I'm innocent  
Job 13:13, 18-19 (13-19) = Shut up and let him defend himself before God  
What did Job ask of God? = v25 – Why bother so much with something as insignificant as me?  
Job 13:20-22 (20-28) = God, give me 2 things: stop scaring me and speak with me

### Job Wants to Talk With God After the Resurrection - Chapter 14

Why did Job feel he was too insignificant for God to take so much effort troubling?  
Job 14:1-2, 10 (1-12) = Man lives very briefly and then is gone for good (until end times, v12)  
Why was Job not afraid of death?  
Job 14:13-14 (13-17) = Let me die & raise me when you're not angry; I hope in resurrection

Was Job right in challenging God?  
Was Zophar right in warning Job to be careful complaining to God?  
Was Job right in not fearing death?

### Closing Prayer

Next Week - *Suffering – Punishment for the Wicked?* (Job 15-21)

### Course Summary

Week 1	Job - A Righteous Man Suffers	Job 1-2
Week 2	Suffering - Persuasion to Repent?	Job 3-14
Week 3	Suffering - Punishment for the Wicked?	Job 15-21
Week 4	Suffering - Beyond Man's Understanding?	Job 22-31
Week 5	Suffering - Guidance From Sin?	Job 32-37
Week 6	God is in Control	Job 38-42