

BOOK OF JOB

SIX-WEEK BIBLE STUDY



**TOGETHER, WE'LL EXPLORE FAITH,
PERSEVERANCE, AND GOD'S PURPOSE
THROUGH LIFE'S TRIALS.**

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Job Study

The book of Job is one of the most difficult books in the Bible to reconcile. How can a God of mercy and love allow such severe and prolonged suffering in the life of a dedicated follower? We know the answer to the question, but let's place ourselves in Job's shoes. Through his journey, Job ultimately learns that God is more trustworthy than he was aware of.

Job 40:1 Then the Lord said to Job, 2 "Do you still want to argue with the Almighty? You are God's critic, but do you have the answers?" 3 Then Job replied to the Lord, 4 "I am nothing—how could I ever find the answers? I will cover my mouth with my hand. NLT

Brother Willie Charles Holling

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Lesson 1 - September 19, 2024

Behind the Scenes, Part 1 – Job 1:1; 6-22 NLT

1 There once was a man named Job who lived in the land of Uz. He was blameless—a man of complete integrity. He feared God and stayed away from evil.

6 One day the members of the heavenly court came to present themselves before the LORD, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. 7 “Where have you come from?” the LORD asked Satan. Satan answered the LORD, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.” 8 Then the LORD asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil.” 9 Satan replied to the LORD, “Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. 10 You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! 11 But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!” 12 “All right, you may test him,” the LORD said to Satan. “Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don’t harm him physically.” So Satan left the LORD’s presence.

13 One day when Job’s sons and daughters were feasting at the oldest brother’s house, 14 a messenger arrived at Job’s home with this news: “Your oxen were plowing, with the donkeys feeding beside them, 15 when the Sabeans raided us. They stole all the animals and killed all the farmhands. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 16 While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: “The fire of God has fallen from heaven and burned up your sheep and all the shepherds. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 17 While he was still speaking, a third messenger arrived with this news: “Three bands of Chaldean raiders have stolen your camels and killed your servants. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 18 While he was still speaking, another messenger arrived with this news: “Your sons and daughters were feasting in their oldest brother’s home. 19 Suddenly, a powerful wind swept in from the wilderness and hit the house on all sides. The house collapsed, and all your children are dead. I am the only one who escaped to tell you.” 20 Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship. 21 He said, “I came naked from my mother’s womb, and I will be naked when

I leave. The LORD gave me what I had, and the LORD has taken it away. Praise the name of the LORD!” 22 In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God.

Discussion Questions 1-3:

1. What does this chapter teach us about God, his character and actions? (Isaiah 55:8-9; Psalm 92:5)
2. What does this chapter teach us about Job and his understanding of God?
3. What does this chapter teach us about Satan, his relationship to God and his plan for mankind? (1 Peter 5:8)

Memory Verse

Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship.
Job 1:20 NLT

Notes:

Lesson 2 - September 26, 2024

Behind the Scenes, Part 2 – Job 2:1-13

2 One day the members of the heavenly court came again to present themselves before the LORD, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. 2 “Where have you come from?” the LORD asked Satan. Satan answered the LORD, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.” 3 Then the LORD asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you urged me to harm him without cause.” 4 Satan replied to the LORD, “Skin for skin! A man will give up everything he has to save his life. 5 But reach out and take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!” 6 “All right, do with him as you please,” the LORD said to Satan. “But spare his life.” 7 So Satan left the LORD’s presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

8 Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes. 9 His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.” 10 But Job replied, “You talk like a foolish woman. Should we accept only good things from the hand of God and never anything bad?” So in all this, Job said nothing wrong.

11 When three of Job’s friends heard of the tragedy he had suffered, they got together and traveled from their homes to comfort and console him. Their names were Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. 12 When they saw Job from a distance, they scarcely recognized him. Wailing loudly, they tore their robes and threw dust into the air over their heads to show their grief. 13 Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. No one said a word to Job, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words.

Discussion Questions 1-4:

1. God continues to confidently recommend Job to Satan. What are at least two reasons why? (Proverbs 21:2)
2. What do we learn about Job’s dedication to God from his wife?
3. Eliphaz, Bildad and Zopher seemed surprised by the condition they found Job in. How did this impact them initially?
4. How does Romans 12:15-16 apply to this lesson?

Memory Verse

Then the LORD asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you urged me to harm him without cause.” **Job 2:3 NLT**

Notes:

Lesson 3 – October 3, 2024

Job's Lament – Job 3:1-26

1 At last Job spoke, and he cursed the day of his birth. 2 He said: 3 “Let the day of my birth be erased, and the night I was conceived. 4 Let that day be turned to darkness. Let it be lost even to God on high, and let no light shine on it. 5 Let the darkness and utter gloom claim that day for its own. Let a black cloud overshadow it, and let the darkness terrify it. 6 Let that night be blotted off the calendar, never again to be counted among the days of the year, never again to appear among the months. 7 Let that night be childless. Let it have no joy. 8 Let those who are experts at cursing— whose cursing could rouse Leviathan—curse that day.

9 Let its morning stars remain dark. Let it hope for light, but in vain; may it never see the morning light. 10 Curse that day for failing to shut my mother's womb, for letting me be born to see all this trouble.

11 “Why wasn't I born dead? Why didn't I die as I came from the womb? 12 Why was I laid on my mother's lap? Why did she nurse me at her breasts? 13 Had I died at birth, I would now be at peace. I would be asleep and at rest. 14 I would rest with the world's kings and prime ministers, whose great buildings now lie in ruins. 15 I would rest with princes, rich in gold, whose palaces were filled with silver. 16 Why wasn't I buried like a stillborn child, like a baby who never lives to see the light? 17 For in death the wicked cause no trouble, and the weary are at rest. 18 Even captives are at ease in death, with no guards to curse them.

19 Rich and poor are both there, and the slave is free from his master.

20 “Oh, why give light to those in misery, and life to those who are bitter? 21 They long for death, and it won't come. They search for death more eagerly than for hidden treasure. 22 They're filled with joy when they finally die, and rejoice when they find the grave. 23 Why is life given to those with no future, those God has surrounded with difficulties? 24 I cannot eat for sighing; my groans pour out like water. 25 What I always feared has happened to me. What I dreaded has come true. 26 I have no peace, no quietness. I have no rest; only trouble comes.”

Discussion Questions 1-4:

1. How is Job’s theology being shaped during this season?
2. Where else in scripture do we see similar responses?
3. How does God use trials in the life of a believer? (Psalm 105:19; Hebrews 5:7-9)
4. What are a few personal implications of Job’s experience in this chapter?

Memory Verse

24 I cannot eat for sighing; my groans pour out like water. 25 What I always feared has happened to me. What I dreaded has come true. 26 I have no peace, no quietness. I have no rest; only trouble comes.”

Job 3:24-26 NLT

Notes:

Lesson 4 – October 10, 2024

Elihu Speaks – Job 32:1-22

1 Job's three friends refused to reply further to him because he kept insisting on his innocence. 2 Then Elihu son of Barakel the Buzite, of the clan of Ram, became angry. He was angry because Job refused to admit that he had sinned and that God was right in punishing him. 3 He was also angry with Job's three friends, for they made God appear to be wrong by their inability to answer Job's arguments. 4 Elihu had waited for the others to speak to Job because they were older than he. 5 But when he saw that they had no further reply, he spoke out angrily. 6 Elihu son of Barakel the Buzite said, "I am young and you are old, so I held back from telling you what I think. 7 I thought, 'Those who are older should speak, for wisdom comes with age.' 8 But there is a spirit within people, the breath of the Almighty within them, that makes them intelligent.

9 Sometimes the elders are not wise. Sometimes the aged do not understand justice. 10 So listen to me, and let me tell you what I think.

11 "I have waited all this time, listening very carefully to your arguments, listening to you grope for words. 12 I have listened, but not one of you has refuted Job or answered his arguments. 13 And don't tell me, 'He is too wise for us. Only God can convince him.' 14 If Job had been arguing with me, I would not answer with your kind of logic! 15 You sit there baffled, with nothing more to say. 16 Should I continue to wait, now that you are silent? Must I also remain silent? 17 No, I will say my piece. I will speak my mind. 18 For I am full of pent-up words, and the spirit within me urges me on. 19 I am like a cask of wine without a vent, like a new wineskin ready to burst! 20 I must speak to find relief, so let me give my answers. 21 I won't play favorites or try to flatter anyone. 22 For if I tried flattery, my Creator would soon destroy me.

Discussion Questions 1-3:

1. What is Elihu's perspective during his response? Is his perspective accurate?
2. In light of the social norms of the time, what gave Elihu confidence to share his thoughts? (Proverbs 23:22)
3. What can we learn from Elihu's theological perspective?

Memory Verse

18 For I am full of pent-up words, and the spirit within me urges me on. **Job 32:18 NLT**

Notes:

Lesson 5 – October 17, 2024

God Speaks – Job 38:1-21

1 Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind: 2 “Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words? 3 Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you, and you must answer them. 4 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much. 5 Who determined its dimensions and stretched out the surveying line? 6 What supports its foundations, and who laid its cornerstone 7 as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? 8 “Who kept the sea inside its boundaries as it burst from the womb, 9 and as I clothed it with clouds and wrapped it in thick darkness? 10 For I locked it behind barred gates, limiting its shores. 11 I said, ‘This far and no farther will you come. Here your proud waves must stop!’ 12 “Have you ever commanded the morning to appear and caused the dawn to rise in the east? 13 Have you made daylight spread to the ends of the earth, to bring an end to the night’s wickedness? 14 As the light approaches, the earth takes shape like clay pressed beneath a seal; it is robed in brilliant colors. 15 The light disturbs the wicked and stops the arm that is raised in violence. 16 “Have you explored the springs from which the seas come? Have you explored their depths? 17 Do you know where the gates of death are located? Have you seen the gates of utter gloom? 18 Do you realize the extent of the earth? Tell me about it if you know! 19 “Where does light come from, and where does darkness go? 20 Can you take each to its home? Do you know how to get there? 21 But of course you know all this! For you were born before it was all created, and you are so very experienced!

Discussion Questions 1-4:

1. What is the purpose of God’s questions to Job?
2. What do we learn about God in this chapter?
3. What are the implications of this knowledge in our lives?
4. How do we reconcile evil and suffering with a loving God? (Isaiah 45:5-7)

Memory Verse

2 “Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorant words? 3 Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you, and you must answer them. **Job 38:2-3**

Notes:

Lesson 6 – October 24, 2024

Job's Confession and Restoration– Job 42:1-17

1 Then Job replied to the LORD: 2 “I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. 3 You asked, ‘Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?’ It is I—and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me. 4 You said, ‘Listen and I will speak! I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.’ 5 I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. 6 I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance.” 7 After the LORD had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite: “I am angry with you and your two friends, or you have not spoken accurately about me, as my servant Job has. 8 So take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and offer a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer on your behalf. I will not treat you as you deserve, for you have not spoken accurately about me, as my servant Job has.” 9 So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite did as the LORD commanded them, and the LORD accepted Job’s prayer. 10 When Job prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes. In fact, the LORD gave him twice as much as before! 11 Then all his brothers, sisters, and former friends came and feasted with him in his home. And they consoled him and comforted him because of all the trials the LORD had brought against him. And each of them brought him a gift of money and a gold ring. 12 So the LORD blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning. For now he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 teams of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys. 13 He also gave Job seven more sons and three more daughters. 14 He named his first daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Kerenhappuch. 15 In all the land no women were as lovely as the daughters of Job. And their father put them into his will along with their brothers. 16 Job lived 140 years after that, living to see four generations of his children and grandchildren. 17 Then he died, an old man who had lived a long, full life.

Discussion Questions 1-3:

1. God described Job as “a man of complete integrity,” in chapter 1:8. In chapter 42:5, Job confesses to an incomplete knowledge about God prior to this experience. What are the implications of this knowledge in our lives?
2. What might Job’s friends have learned through this experience?
3. What can we learn through reflecting on Job’s experiences? (James 1:2-4)

Memory Verse

5 I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. 6 I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance.” **Job 42:5-6**

Notes:
