

# Digging Deeper

## Job's Story: A Case Study in Dealing with Disaster, Disease (and "Friends")

Job 1:1 – 2:13

### Additional Notes

### Setting the Stage for Job's Story...

The book of Job: An \_\_\_\_\_ of an ancient Biblical historical person

Job – a "\_\_\_\_\_ person – perhaps a contemporary of Abraham. The book of Job may be the oldest book in the Bible predating the Pentateuch. We do not know who the author was.

This is a VERY IMPORTANT book of the Bible because of the truth it teaches!

Righteous people \_\_\_\_\_! God permits it as a "\_\_\_\_\_." How we respond when we experience suffering \_\_\_\_\_ our character and \_\_\_\_\_ it!

Getting it straight... How would you characterize Job based upon these verses (1:1-5)? What kind of person was he? Job's character assessment (given by God at the outset of this story) (1:1, 8; 2:3) Consider the aspects of Job's character given in this passage...

- ✓ He was \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ He was very \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ He was \_\_\_\_\_ – "blameless and upright, feared [reverenced] God and shunned evil"
- ✓ He was a \_\_\_\_\_ parent (and spouse)

Based upon just Job 1:1-5, what would you have expected Job's future would have looked like if nothing else had happened to him?

(And then one day, coming home from "church"... (cp. 1:4-5 and 13)

### Act 1 – The "Test" (Job 1:6-22)

Getting a "\_\_\_\_\_ " and "\_\_\_\_\_ " straight

Since the words in both the Old and New Testament for "test" and "tempt" are the same, what is the difference between the two concepts? (cp. James 1:12-15; Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:14-18)

- ✓ A "test" is \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ A "temptation" arises from "\_\_\_\_\_ "
- ✓ However, for a Christian, every temptation has \_\_\_\_\_ aspect to it (cp. 1 Corinthians 10:13; James 4:7-8)

## Act 1 – Job’s Test

1. Satan “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (1:6-7)
2. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ to Satan (1:8)
3. Satan’s \_\_\_\_\_ (1:9-11)
4. God’s response (1:12)

**Key question:** Does it appear that at any point in this story Job was informed by God of this conversation between God and Satan (and the follow-up conversation in 2:1-6)? What do you think the impact of this might have been on how Job responded to his suffering? What impact do you think it would have on you if Job’s experience was yours?

5. The Test... The \_\_\_\_\_ disasters – the loss of \_\_\_\_\_ ! (1:13-19)
6. Job’s Godly Response – he “passed the ‘test!’” (1:20-22)
  - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ !
  - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ !
  - ✓ No \_\_\_\_\_ of God – Instead, “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” of God

## Act 2 – Another “Test!”

1. Satan “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” again (2:1-2)
2. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ to Satan (2:3)
3. Satan’s follow-up \_\_\_\_\_ (2:4-5)
4. God’s response (2:6)
5. The Test
  - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ ! (2:7-8)
  - ✓ The \_\_\_\_\_ of the person closest to Job – his wife (2:9)
6. Job’s Godly Response (2:10)
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Job’s friends (2:11-13)

What we can learn from them about providing helpful “comfort” to those experiencing “grief”...

What we should avoid when trying to help others during their severe trials

What are some valid life lessons you would suggest from Job’s story and experience thus far in the book?