

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?