

Job

The Suffering Of The Righteous



Saar Waterfall and Spring near Mount Hermon, Israel

“Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.
Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.” (Job 13:15)

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Meditate On These Things

“But as for me, I would seek God, and to God I would commit my cause...” (Job 5:8)

“But he said to her, You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” (Job 2:10)

“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.” (Job 1:21)

“Even as I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same.” (Job 4:8)

“Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty.” (Job 5:17)

“Behold, God will not cast away the blameless, nor will He uphold the evildoers.” (Job 8:20)

“But I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God.” (Job 13:3)

“Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.” (Job 13:15)

“Yet the righteous will hold to his way, and he who has clean hands will be stronger and stronger.” (Job 17:9)

“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...” (Job 19:25–26)

“...the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite is but for a moment” (Job 20:5)

“I said, age should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.” (Job 32:7)

“And to man He said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding.” (Job 28:28)

Descriptions Of Life

“For we were born yesterday, and know nothing, because our days on earth are a shadow.” (Job 8:9)

“Now my days are swifter than a runner; they flee away, they see no good. They pass by like swift ships, like an eagle swooping on its prey.” (Job 9:25–26)

“Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; he flees like a shadow and does not continue.” (Job 14:1–2)

Descriptions Of Death

“I am blameless, yet I do not know myself; I despise my life. It is all one thing; therefore I say, He destroys the blameless and the wicked.” (Job 9:21–22)

“Man decays like a rotten thing, like a garment that is moth-eaten.” (Job 13:28)

“But man dies and is laid away; indeed he breathes his last and where is he?” (Job 14:10)

Descriptions Of God

“For He is not a man, as I am, that I may answer Him...” (Job 9:32)

“He does great things past finding out, yes, wonders without number.” (Job 9:10)

“If I sin, then You mark me, and will not acquit me of my iniquity.” (Job 10:14)

“I am terrified at His presence; when I consider this, I am afraid of Him.” (Job 23:15)

“Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.” (*Job 11:7–9*)

“With Him are wisdom and strength, He has counsel and understanding. If He breaks a thing down, it cannot be rebuilt; if He imprisons a man, there can be no release. If He withholds the waters, they dry up; if He sends them out, they overwhelm the earth. With Him are strength and prudence. The deceived and the deceiver are His. He leads counselors away plundered, and makes fools of the judges. He loosens the bonds of kings, and binds their waist with a belt. He leads princes away plundered, and overthrows the mighty. He deprives the trusted ones of speech, and takes away the discernment of the elders. He pours contempt on princes, and disarms the mighty. He uncovers deep things out of darkness, and brings the shadow of death to light. He makes nations great, and destroys them; He enlarges nations, and guides them. He takes away the understanding of the chiefs of the people of the earth, and makes them wander in a pathless wilderness. They grope in the dark without light, and He makes them stagger like a drunken man.” (*Job 12:13–25*)

“The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life” (*Job 33:4*)

“God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend.” (*Job 37:5*)

“As for the Almighty, we cannot find Him; He is excellent in power, in judgment and abundant justice; He does not oppress. Therefore men fear Him; He shows no partiality to any who are wise of heart.” (*Job 37:23–24*)

The Character Of Job

“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.” (*Job 1:1*)

“So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise 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*)

“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.” (*Job 1:21*)

“But he said to her, You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” (*Job 2:10*)

“Did I ever say, Bring something to me? Or, Offer a bribe for me from your wealth?” (*Job 6:22*)

“I am one mocked by his friends, who called on God, and He answered him, the just and blameless who is ridiculed.” (*Job 12:4*)

“Surely even now my witness is in heaven, and my evidence is on high.” (*Job 16:19*)

“My spirit is broken, my days are extinguished, the grave is ready for me.” (*Job 17:1*)

“But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot has held fast to His steps; I have kept His way and not turned aside. I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.” (*Job 23:10–12*)

“Because I delivered the poor who cried out, the fatherless and the one who had no helper. The blessing of a perishing man came upon me, and I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban. I was eyes to the blind, and I was feet to the lame. I was a father to the poor, and I searched out the case that I did not know. I broke the fangs of the wicked, and plucked the victim from his teeth.” (Job 29:12–17)

“Have I not wept for him who was in trouble? Has not my soul grieved for the poor?” (Job 30:25)

“I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon a young woman?” (Job 31:1)

“If I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing, or any poor man without covering; if his heart has not blessed me, and if he was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep; if I have raised my hand against the fatherless, when I saw I had help in the gate; then let my arm fall from my shoulder, let my arm be torn from the socket.” (Job 31:19–22)

“But no sojourner had to lodge in the street, for I have opened my doors to the traveler;” (Job 31:32)

The Suffering Of Job

“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. And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.” (Job 2:7–8)

“And when they raised their eyes from afar, and did not recognize him, they lifted their voices and wept; and each one tore his robe and sprinkled dust on his head toward heaven.” (Job 2:12)

“So I have been allotted months of futility, and wearisome nights have been appointed to me. When I lie down, I say, When shall I arise, and the night be ended? For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn. My flesh is caked with worms and dust, my skin is cracked and breaks out afresh.” (Job 7:3–5)

“But He has made me a byword of the people, and I have become one in whose face men spit. My eye has also grown dim because of sorrow, and all my members are like shadows.” (Job 17:6–7)

“He has stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head. He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone; my hope He has uprooted like a tree.” (Job 19:9–10)

“My breath is offensive to my wife, and I am repulsive to the children of my own body.” (Job 19:17)

“My bone clings to my skin and to my flesh, and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.” (Job 19:20)

“And now I am their taunting song; yes, I am their byword. They abhor me, they keep far from me; they do not hesitate to spit in my face.” (Job 30:9–10)

“My skin grows black and falls from me; my bones burn with fever.” (Job 30:30)

“He has removed my brothers far from me, and my acquaintances are completely estranged from me. My relatives have failed, and my close friends have forgotten me. Those who dwell in my house, and my maidservants, count me as a stranger; I am an alien in their sight.” (Job 19:13–15)

“My brothers have dealt deceitfully like a brook, like the streams of the brooks that pass away...” (Job 6:15)

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 - B. Eliphaz’s First Speech 4:1–5:27
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 - D. Bildad’s First Speech 8:1–22
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Part One: The Dilemma of Job (1:1–2:13)

I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF JOB (1:1–5)

1. Where is the land of Uz (1:1)?
2. How did Job compare with other “people of the East” (1:3)?
3. How do we know Job did not live under the Mosaic law (1:5)?

II. THE FIRST ASSAULT OF SATAN (1:6–22)

1. What question did God ask Satan (1:7)?
2. Who brings up the *character* of Job (1:8)?
3. How did Satan describe God’s care for Job (1:10)?
4. What limitation did God place on Satan (1:12)?
5. In Job 1:13–19, four messengers come to Job. What did they say?

6. How did Job react to the bad news given him by the messengers (1:20–22)?

III. THE SECOND ASSAULT OF SATAN (2:1–10)

1. Did Satan tell the truth in Job 2:4?
2. What does Satan purpose to do in Job 2:5?
3. Describe Job's physical condition in Job 2:7–8.
4. What does Job's wife suggest in Job 2:9?
5. What was Job's answer to his wife (2:10)?

IV. THE ARRIVAL OF JOB'S FRIENDS (2:11–13)

1. Why did Job's friends come to visit (2:11)?
2. How did the friends of Job react when they saw him (2:12)?
3. How long did his friends stay *before speaking* with Job (2:13)?

Part Two: The Debates of Job (3:1–37:24)

I. THE FIRST CYCLE OF DEBATE (3:1–14:22)

A. Job's First Speech (3:1–26)

1. Why did Job curse the “day of his birth” (3:1)?
2. What is a *Leviathan* (3:8)?
3. Where is the place that the “wicked cease from troubling” (3:17)?
4. What did Job search for “more than hidden treasures” (3:21)?

B. Eliphaz's First Speech (4:1–5:27)

1. What observation about life did Eliphaz make (4:8)?
2. How does Eliphaz describe mortal man (4:19)?
3. Eliphaz wanted to submit his case to whom (5:8)?
4. What is the “chastening of the Almighty” (5:17)?

C. Job's Reply to Eliphaz (6:1–7:21)

1. How did Job's brothers treat him (6:15)?
2. How does Job defend his integrity in Job 6:22–23?
3. How does Job describe his suffering in Job 7:3–5?
4. What does Job affirm in Job 7:20?

D. Bildad's First Speech (8:1–22)

1. How does Bildad describe life (Job 8:9)?
2. What is the "hope of the hypocrite" (8:13)?

E. Job's Response to Bildad (9:1–10:22)

1. What is described in Job 9:9?
2. How does Job describe life in Job 9:25–26?

3. What does Job desire in Job 9:33?

4. What does Job say of God (10:8)?

5. What will God do when we sin (10:14)?

F. Zophar's First Speech (11:1–20)

1. What did Zophar desire (11:5)?

2. What did Zophar say about Job's suffering (11:6)?

G. Job's Response to Zophar (12:1–14:22)

1. What did Job think of Zophar's wisdom (12:2)?

2. How is God's *power* described in Job 12:13–15?

3. Who did Job desire to speak with (13:3)?

4. To what degree did Job *trust* God (13:15)?

5. What was Job's attitude towards life (14:1–2)?

6. What great question did Job pose (14:14)?

II. THE SECOND CYCLE OF DEBATE (15:1–21:34)

A. Eliphaz's Second Speech (15:1–35)

1. Who did Eliphaz claim accused Job (15:6)?

2. What group of people are described in Job 15:10?

B. Job's Response to Eliphaz (16:1–17:16)

1. How did Job describe his three *comforters* (16:2)?

2. How does Job describe God's *attack* on him (16:12–14)?

3. Where was Job's witness and evidence located (16:19)?

4. How would you describe Job's spirit at this time (17:1)?

5. How did other men treat Job (17:6)? Why did they treat him like this?

C. Bildad's Second Speech (18:1–21)

1. Why was Bildad indignant towards Job (18:2–3)?

2. Who is described in Job 18:5–21? What purpose did Bildad have for mentioning these people to Job?

D. Job's Response to Bildad (19:1–29)

1. What had the words of his friends done to Job (19:2)?

2. How did Job's brothers, friends and relatives treat him (19:13–20)?

3. What did Job beg for (19:21)?

4. What did Job take comfort in (19:25)?

E. Zophar's Second Speech (20:1–29)

1. What is the "joy of the hypocrite" (20:5)?

2. How does Zophar describe the end of a wicked man (20:12–19)?

F. Job's Response to Zophar (21:1–34)

1. What did Job think his friends would do after his speech (21:3)?

2. What did Job lament in Job 21:7?

III. THE THIRD CYCLE OF DEBATE (22:1–26:14)

A. Eliphaz's Third Speech (22:1–30)

1. What did Eliphaz accuse Job of (22:5–9)? Was he right?

2. What did Eliphaz want Job to do (22:23)?

B. Job's Response to Eliphaz (23:1–24:25)

1. What was Job confident of (23:10–12)?

2. What terrified Job (23:15)? Should he have been terrified?

3. What four groups of people do wicked men often prey upon (24:2–4)?

4. What does the “eye of the adulterer” wait for (24:15)? Why?

C. Bildad’s Third Speech (25:1–6)

1. How does Bildad describe God (25:2–3)?

2. How does Bildad describe mankind (25:6)?

D. Job’s Response to Bildad (26:1–14)

1. Job had given aid to what three groups of people (26:2–3)?

2. Explain how “Sheol is naked” before God (26:6).

IV. THE FINAL DEFENSE OF JOB (27:1–31:40)

A. Job’s First Monologue (27:1–28:28)

1. What promise did Job make (27:3–4)?

2. How valuable is wisdom (28:18)?

3. What is the “fear of the Lord” (28:28)?

B. Job's Second Monologue (29:1–31:40)

1. Looking to his past, Job took comfort in what (29:2–4)?
2. Job took comfort in what else (29:5).
3. Job also took comfort in this (29:7–17).
4. Who now joined in mocking Job (30:1)?
5. Job had concern for this group of people (30:25).
6. What covenant had Job made with his eyes (31:1)?
7. What did Job have in common with his servants (31:15)?
8. What things did Job have no confidence in (31:24–25)?

V. THE SOLUTION OF ELIHU (32:1–37:24)

A. Elihu Intervenes in the Debate (32:1–22)

1. Why was Elihu angry with Job (32:2)?
2. Why was Elihu angry with the other friends of Job (32:3)?
3. Why was Elihu the last one of Job's friends to speak (32:4)?
4. How did Elihu feel about having to keep quiet (32:19)?

B. Elihu's First Rebuttal (33:1–33)

1. What ascription of praise did Elihu give to God (33:4)?
2. What did Elihu promise to give Job (33:33)?

C. Elihu's Second Rebuttal (34:1–37)

1. What did Elihu think was the cause of Job's suffering (34:11)?
2. What did Elihu accuse Job of (34:35)?

D. Elihu's Third Rebuttal (35:1–16)

1. What did Elihu accuse Job of (35:2)?
2. What did Elihu accuse Job of (35:16)?

E. Elihu's Conclusion (36:1–37:24)

1. What did Elihu say about himself (36:4)?
2. What do hypocrites "store up" (36:13)?
3. What does God do (37:5)?
4. What did Elihu want Job to consider (37:14)?
5. *Why* should men fear God (37:24)?
6. At this point, how would *you* have answered Job?

Part Three: The Deliverance of Job (38:1–42:17)

I. THE FIRST CONTROVERSY OF GOD WITH JOB (38:1–40:5)

A. God's First Challenge to Job (38:1–40:2)

1. How did God answer Job (38:1)?
2. What does God want Job to tell Him (38:4)? Why?
3. What does God ask Job (38:16)?
4. What is the "treasury of snow" (38:22)?
5. What is the "cluster of Pleiades" (38:31)?
6. At least seven different animals are mentioned in chapter 39. Name these animals and tell why God mentions them.

B. Job's First Answer to God (40:3–5)

1. How does Job describe himself (40:4)?
2. Does Job plan on asking God any more questions (40:5)?

II. THE SECOND CONTROVERSY OF GOD WITH JOB (40:6–42:6)

A. God's Second Challenge to Job (40:6–41:34)

1. *How* did God want Job to prepare himself (40:7)? Please explain.
2. What animal is described in Job 40:15–24? Was this animal real? How do you know?
3. What animal is described in Job 41:1–34? Was this animal real? How do you know?

B. Job's Second Answer to God (42:1–6)

1. What does Job *now* know about God (42:2)?
2. What does Job now think of himself (42:6)?

III. THE DELIVERANCE OF JOB AND HIS FRIENDS (42:7–17)

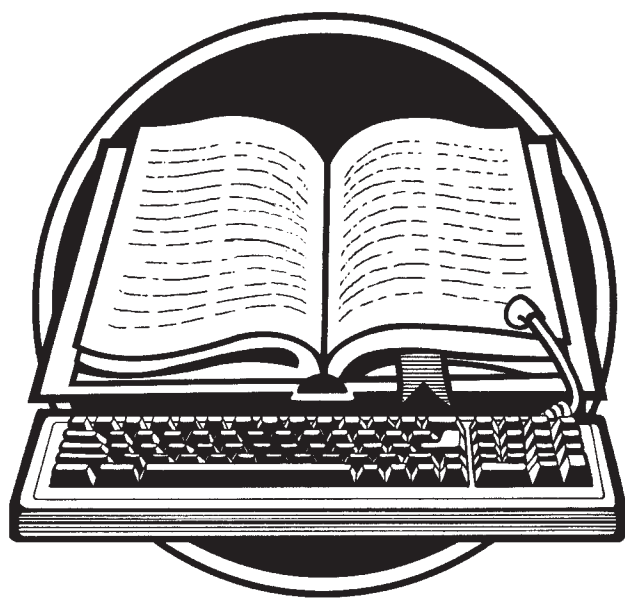
1. What does God tell Eliphaz (42:7)?
2. How does God describe Job to Eliphaz (42:8)?
3. What did the Lord give Job (42:10–12)?

4. What do we know about the daughters of Job (42:14–15)?

5. How long did Job live after his trials were over (42:16)?

6. Did Job ever find out the cause of his suffering?

7. What have *you* learned about suffering from teh book of Job?



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