

THE BOOK OF JOB

Lesson 1 – Chapters 1-2

The Book of Job is an account of a true story, one that really happened. It gives us a graphic picture of God as we see His sovereignty, and are reminded of His majesty and power. This Book opens our eyes to the spiritual realm, as we are allowed behind the scenes to a conversation between God and Satan. We will also read of the thoughts and questions of both Job and his friends as he walks through this very difficult trial. As we look closely into this man who lost all but his life, may we learn from his perseverance and come to a deeper understanding of Who our God is and why He is worthy of our worship.

Begin your study with prayer...

Memory Verse – This week’s memory verse is:

*“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*

Read Job 1:1-12.

1. Job Chapter 1 begins with a description of Job’s character.
 - a. List the four traits mentioned in verse 1.

 - b. Use synonyms to define the word *shunned*.

2. Job 1:5 tells us that Job regularly *sanctified* his children.
 - a. What does this mean?

 - b. Although Job raised his children to fear God, what was his concern in verse 5?

 - c. In New Testament understanding, what can we do along these lines for our children?

3. Job 1:1-5 describes Job's life on earth. Verse 6 moves us to the spiritual realm, beginning with the words *Now there was a day...* On that day Satan came before God.

- a. According to verse 7, what had Satan been doing?
- b. Using 1 Peter 5:8, explain what Satan does as he *walks about*.

4. Summarize the conversation between God and Satan in Job 1:8-11.

- a. What was Satan's goal?
- b. Write God's words to Satan from verse 12 below. Underline the limitations He set.

5. Read Luke 22:31 and write the words Jesus said to Simon (Peter) before Peter denied Him.

- a. What are your thoughts when you consider the fact that Satan must get God's permission?
- b. What comfort for Peter do you find in Luke 22:32?
- c. What similar comfort can we find in Hebrews 7:25?

Read Job 1:13-22.

1. In Job 1:13 we return to the scene on earth. The blessed description of Job's life in the first few verses of Chapter 1 was about to change. What was reported to Job by each of the following?

- a. the first messenger (Job 1:14-15)

b. the second messenger (Job 1:16)

c. the third messenger (Job 1:17)

d. the fourth messenger (Job 1:18-19)

2. How did Job respond in verses 20 and 22?

a. What truths about God did Job acknowledge in Job 1:21?

b. What truths about God do you remind yourself of during difficult times?

3. Considering again from Job 1:22, that Job did *not charge God with wrong*, what do you find in Romans 9:20 that applies?

Read Job 2:1-7.

1. Notice that Job Chapter 2 begins with the word *again*. What similarities do you see between Job 1:6-7 and Job 2:1-2?

2. Compare God's description of Job in Job 1:8 and Job 2:3.

a. What do you see added in the second description?

b. What does this mean?

3. Summarize Satan's response to God in Job 2:4-5.

a. What permission did God give Satan in Job 2:6?

b. What limitation did He give him this time?

4. How did Satan attack Job in Job 2:7?

Read Job 2:8-13.

1. In Job 2:8 we again return to the scene on earth. Read the description of Job in this verse.

a. What does it tell you when you read that Job *took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself*?

b. Where does verse 8 say Job sat?

2. There are several possibilities for the significance of ashes. What possibilities do you find in the following scriptures?

a. Job 42:6

b. Jonah 3:6

3. In Job 2:9 we first hear from Job's wife.

a. What did she encourage Job to do?

b. She mocked him for the very thing God had pointed out to Satan in Job 2:3. As a reminder, what was that?

c. This certainly is not a picture of a wife coming alongside to support her husband in a trial. What are some ways a spouse could be an encouragement and support?

4. Consider Job's response to his wife's "*encouragement*" from Job 2:10.
 - a. How did he describe the way she spoke?

 - b. What question did Job pose to his wife in this verse?

 - c. What does it mean practically to *accept adversity*?

5. The last line of Job 2:10 is perhaps the most important.
 - a. Write out these words below.

 - b. What does this mean to you?

6. What do you find in the following scriptures that could help you to not *sin with your lips*?
 - a. 2 Corinthians 10:5

 - b. James 1:19

 - c. Psalm 39:1

 - d. Add any other verses you can think of here.

7. Job's three friends heard of his adversity.
 - a. According to Job 2:11, what did they intend to do?

b. Verse 12 tells us that they did not recognize Job when they saw him. What was their reaction?

c. Although Job's friends will fail to comfort Job many times in the chapters to come, in what ways could their actions in this chapter be a comfort?

d. When you hear of someone who is going through difficult times, what are some ways we can help?

In closing...

1. What do you want to take away from this lesson to apply to your life as:

a. a spouse of a person in a trial

b. a friend of a person in a trial

c. as the one personally in the midst of a trial

Memory Verse

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