

God, Wisdom, and Difficult Times

A Study of Job

Job - Wealth with Character

Assignments

- ▶ **Read the book of Job through twice. Use a different translation each time.**
- ▶ **Read at least one other book relating to suffering.**
 - ▶ The book may come from the supplied reading list.
 - ▶ If you have another book you would like to read, come talk with me.
- ▶ **Be prepared toward the end of the series to share insights you have gained from Job, and from the other book(s) you have read.**

1:1 - 2:13 Prologue

Job is Introduced (1:1-5)

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▶ Job's Wealth

- ▶ A wonderful family
- ▶ A great balance sheet
- ▶ A sizable payroll (cf. Gen 14:14)

▶ When Did Job Live?

- ▶ Wealth was measured in livestock (cf. Gen 12:16)
- ▶ The head of the family (Patriarch) offered sacrifices

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Four Essential Things About Job

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 - ▶ He was straight, or in line with God's ways.
 - ▶ He consistently listened to God and followed what he said.
 - ▶ He was a man whose life lines up with God.

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 - ▶ He was a man whose life lines up with God.
- ▶ **Neither one of these means he was sinless. He was, however, a man of high moral character.**

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Job as an Upright Man

▶ Job 29:15

- ▶ Eyes to the blind and feet to the lame.
- ▶ A father to the needy and defended the stranger.

▶ Job 30:25

- ▶ Grieved for the poor.

▶ Job 31:16

- ▶ Shared bread with the fatherless, and gave warm clothing to the cold.
- ▶ Never took advantage of the weak and defenseless.
- ▶ Never trusted in wealth or gloated over my enemy's misfortune.
- ▶ Door was always open to the traveler.

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- ▶ #3 -- He feared God.
 - ▶ Treated God with respect and awe, and took what God said seriously.
 - ▶ This is why Job was blameless and upright.

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- ▶ Treated God with respect and awe, and took what God said seriously.
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▶ **#4 -- He shunned evil.**

- ▶ He not only did the right thing; he avoided the wrong thing.

1:1 - 2:13 Prologue

The Extent of Job's Righteousness

▶ Ezekiel on the Extent of Job's Righteousness

- ▶ Judah trusted in the temple in Jerusalem to save them, and continued to act corruptly.
- ▶ Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were there, their righteousness would only save themselves - Ezekiel 14:12-16.
- ▶ Think of the most righteous men people recognized, and Job was on the list!

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▶ James on the Extent of Job's Righteousness

- ▶ Pointed to Job as an example of one who persevered - James 5:11.

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▶ Job as a Priest and his Righteousness

- ▶ Actively involved in the spiritual leadership of his family.

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- ▶ What do we normally expect to see involving one of the Patriarchs that is missing from the description of Job?
 - ▶ **Genealogy!**
 - ▶ The message of Job is not limited to a particular family or time.
 - ▶ Job's faith and character were what mattered!