

Overview of The Book of Job

**Sunday School Series
by Dave Lueloff**

Job – Truths from Ch. 1-2

- God knows your heart – He knows who you are

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name *was* Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

- The godly are few and far between

Job 1:8 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

- God knows those who fear Him

Job 1:1 ... Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

Malachi 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard *it*, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD...

- Satan is busy

Job 1:7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

- Pray for adult children - Cannot control their heart. We shepherd their heart, but ultimately they choose

Job 1:5 And it was so, when the days of *their* feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered 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 did Job continually.

- Job's test was God's idea

Job 1:8 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

- Satan must get permission from God to do anything to you

Job 1:11-12 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath *is* in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

- Satan would destroy you if he had permission

Job 1:10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

- Satan can destroy your wealth

Job 1:11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

- Satan can destroy your health

Job 2:5 ...and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.

- Some trials can seem more than I can handle

Job 1:14-19 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: And the Sabeans fell *upon them*, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While he *was* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Job 2:7 So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

Job 2:13 So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that *his* grief was very great.

- Lean not unto your own understanding – by faith, trust God

Job 1:20-22 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

By faith, we put ourselves in heaven and look back!

Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 For **our light affliction**, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things

which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal. (SEE 2 Cor. 11:24-28 – is that “light affliction”?)

- Guard your lips

Job 1:22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

- God is to be blessed and praised regardless of our circumstances

Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

- Most important thing in your life is your integrity / testimony

Job 2:3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

- When you think it cannot get any worse, it can

Job 2:7-8 So went Satan...and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

- There will always be critics

Job 2:9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

- Those closest to you can hurt you the most

Job 2:9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Psalms 55:12-14 For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it*: neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But *it was* thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company. (Judas / Ahithophel)

- Mature Christians control the tongue – because the heart trusts God

Job 2:10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Jeremiah 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, *I* try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, *and* according to the fruit of his doings.

In Job Chapter 1-2, we are allowed to peer into heaven itself to learn truths about the next life. Other places are: Daniel chapter 10; Isaiah chapter 6; Ezekiel chapters 1-2; Revelation chapters 4-19.

Job – Friends **

Proverbs 18:24 A man *that hath* friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend *that* sticketh closer than a brother.

- It is good to have friends

Job 2:11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite...

- Human friends can be fickle, the most trustworthy one is God
- In grief, sometimes it is best to say nothing to the one grieving

Job 2:12-13 And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent every one his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven. So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that *his* grief was very great.

- Friends care enough to come without being asked to come over

Job 2:11-13 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place...together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.

And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent every one his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven.

So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that *his* grief was very great.

- Friends respond with sympathy and comfort
- Friends openly express the depth of their feelings
- Friends aren't turned off by distasteful sights
- Friends understand, so they say very little

People want to know – “do you care?” Everyone has a time in life when they need someone who cares.

- There are days too dark for the sufferer to see light
- There are experiences too extreme for the hurting to have hope
- There are valleys too deep for the anguished to find relief

Everyone needs hope

Deut. 10:12 ...what doth the **LORD thy God require** of thee, but to **fear** the LORD thy God, to **walk** in all his ways, and to **love** him, and to **serve** the LORD thy God with **all** thy heart and with **all** thy soul,

** Many ideas are taken from *Job* by: Charles Swindoll

The 13 Essential Friendship Traits

1. I am trustworthy.
2. I am honest with others.
3. I am generally very dependable.
4. I am loyal to the people I care about.
5. I am easily able to trust others.
6. I experience and express empathy for others.
7. I am able to be non-judgmental.
8. I am a good listener.
9. I am supportive of others in their good times.
10. I am supportive of others in their bad times.
11. I am self-confident.
12. I am usually able to see the humor in life.
13. I am fun to be around.

These traits fall into three general categories, each representing an essential aspect of relational behavior. Below is a description of how each trait influences relationships, organized by the realm of behavioral expectations in which it falls.

Traits of Integrity

These qualities, represented by **the first 5 traits** on the list above, are related to core values held by most cultures—trustworthiness, honesty, dependability, loyalty, and, as an interrelated quality, the ability to trust others.

Trustworthiness is often the “make or break” element in any interpersonal relationship. Any breach, regardless of perceived magnitude, can devastate a relationship. Trustworthiness is comprised of several components, including honesty, dependability, and loyalty, and while each is important to successful relationships, honesty and dependability have been identified as the *most* vital in the realm of friendships.

Honesty requires that we speak openly from the heart and incorporate objectivity into our words.

Being *dependable* means that friends can count on you to be there when you say you will, to do what you say you will, and to be willing to stand up for friends, especially when they can’t stand up for themselves. If you are as likely to let friends down as come through for them, the relationship often becomes superficial, less engaging, and even resentment-provoking, if it doesn’t end altogether.

Loyalty is valued early on in all of our relationships, from the time we make our first friendships. We need friends who won’t spill our secrets to others, gossip about us, or allow others to criticize us.

Being able to trust another person involves being comfortable with vulnerability. If you have difficulty sharing your authentic self with a friend, it is doubtful your friend will be easily willing to do this for you.

Traits of Caring

These qualities, represented by the **traits listed as numbers 6 to 10** above, includes empathy, the ability to withhold judgment, effective listening skills, and the ability to offer support in good times and bad. These traits require personal insight, self-discipline, and unconditional positive regard for our friends.

Empathy is the ability to understand what is going on with a friend, to recognize how he or she is feeling, and to interact and respond accordingly.

The ability to be *non-judgmental* reflects our ease in accepting a friend's choices, regardless of how they may differ from our own.

Good listening skills are essential to allow the communicating of intimate thoughts, feelings, and experiences. This sharing is a gradual process of give and take that deepens over time.

Being *supportive of others in their bad times* is a defining quality of a good friend, but *being supportive of others in their good times* is also essential. The saying goes, "Everybody loves a winner," but for some of us, this just isn't so. If you have trouble celebrating another's good fortune and experience envy or even bitterness, this may limit the depth of your friendships.

Traits of Congeniality

This group, representing by the **final three traits** listed above, includes self-confidence, the ability to see the humor in life, and being fun to be around. This trio of traits has also been associated with overall well-being and happiness in life.

Self-confidence is an appealing characteristic in any friend, and may even be contagious. When we are in the company of self-confident individuals, we typically feel our own confidence rise.

People who are *fun to be around* are better company than friends who walk around with a dark cloud hanging over their heads. The former enjoy life, handle challenges in proactive ways, and keep negative experiences in perspective.

People who have the *ability to see the humor in life* help us deal with the curveballs (or spitballs) life tosses at us. We all benefit from friends who are able to keep us from taking life too seriously.

All this from these two pages are from the Internet:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/lifetime-connections/201503/the-13-essential-traits-good-friends>

Job – A Broken Man

➤ **Job is a broken man**

Job 3:1 After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day.

- He regrets his birth Job 3:1-10
- He wishes he'd died at birth 3:11-19
- He now longs to die 3:20-26

Job 3:21-22 Which long for death, but it *cometh* not; and dig for it more than for hid treasures; Which rejoice exceedingly, *and* are glad, when they can find the grave?

➤ **If you decide to do launch out for the Lord, you will be tested.**

Psalms 107:23-24 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.

➤ **Life may get extremely difficult**

Psalms 107:26-27 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.

Job 23:16 For God maketh my heart soft, and the Almighty troubleth me:

➤ **The storms of life are under the control of a sovereign God**

Psalms 107:29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

➤ **God leads you into difficulties to humble thee**

Job 23:10 But he knoweth the way that I take: *when* he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Deuteronomy 8:15-16 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, *wherein were* fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where *there was* no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

➤ **God uses tribulations for the end result of His love increased**

Romans 5:3-5 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that **tribulation worketh** patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the **love of God is shed abroad in our hearts** by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

➤ **Persecutions are typical for a Christian**

2 Timothy 3:12 Yea, and **all that will live godly** in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

2 Thessalonians 1:4-5 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your **persecutions** and **tribulations** that ye endure: *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, **that ye may be counted worthy** of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

1 Corinthians 4:11-14 Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace; And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, *and are* the offscouring of all things unto this day. **I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you.**

➤ **Your testimony is paramount**

Job 2:3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

Job 2:9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Job 27:5 God forbid that I should justify you: till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.

Job 31:6 Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity.

Integrity (Webster's): The entire, unimpaired state of anything, particularly of the mind; moral soundness or purity; incorruptness; uprightness; honesty. It comprehends the whole moral character

➤ **We suffer to the intent others may get saved (perhaps via our testimony)**

2 Timothy 2:9-10 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, *even* unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation...

➤ **When you are broken, the Lord not only a refuge, He is everything to you.**

Psalms 18:1-2 To the chief Musician, *A Psalm* of David, the servant of the LORD, who spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day *that* the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul: And he said, I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD *is* my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, *and* my high tower.

Joseph was accused of rape and thrown into a pit in spite of his impeccable character. Moses was ridiculed and threatened to be stoned to death for obeying the leading of the Lord. David was anointed as the next king, yet he was hunted by King Saul as a man would hunt a prey. Daniel was thrown into a den of lions for praying to the Lord. Jeremiah was rejected, yet his broken heart and many tears did not sway the people. Isaiah was placed into the trunk of a hollowed tree and sawn in half.

John 15:18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before *it hated* you.

➤ **If you thought the Christian life was going to be easy, you are mistaken.**

2 Timothy 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

Job Trusting God

What to do when confused:

Job 23:10-12 But he knoweth the way that I take: *when* he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary *food*.

- But he knoweth the way that I take

We never know what lies ahead of us.... But God knows what you are going thru. We can change the things that are under our control, but the things that are out of our control, we must trust God.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Often there is 'second-hand suffering' that occurs. We suffer heartache or difficulties due to someone else. This was not the case with Job. His case was just a trial from God as God used Satan to afflict him.

- ...*when* he hath tried me

God will test you. A mature Christian obeys even when He does not understand. A vertical perspective keeps us from a horizontal panic.

- ...My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined.

Your testimony / your integrity is under your control.

You control your thoughts / your actions / your attitude

That which is out of your control:

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

A proper understanding of who God is helps us to remain strong and stable.

- ...I shall come forth as gold

1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

Job 42:12 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

James 5:11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

- I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary *food*.

The Bible becomes our source of strength. Find a Bible verse(s) that you can claim for yourself.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Psalms 91:1-2 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

The Bible was given for times like this. Take comfort that God has recorded the innermost heart of King David, who suffered affliction from King Saul, many enemies, and his worst enemy- himself.

Take comfort that Job suffered the extreme and it is recorded for our benefit. Take comfort that the Saviour has suffered for us and given us hope of a home in heaven and a new, resurrected body.

FOR ME

You don't need to explain or defend yourself – God Knows

Focus on the future, not the present pain – God Leads

Embrace the sovereignty of God – God Controls

ADVICE & FRIENDS

Discernment is needed when advice is offered

It is wonderful to have caring friends

It is easy to judge when others are in a fix

Love others in spite of everything – don't judge

Rejoice with those that rejoice / weep with those that weep

Job – What is Going On?

Job's friends arrived and each had a perspective and rationale to Job's situation. Their perspective:

Eliphaz –	Experience
Bildad -	Tradition
Zophar -	Assumption

Eliphaz Experience

Job – you are reaping what you sowed Job 4:7-9

I had a vision Job 4:12-17 (his vision was 'you have sinned' – what a ridiculous *vision*)

Job – you are being chastened by God Job 5:17-18

Bildad Tradition

Job 8:6 If thou *wert* pure and upright; surely now he would awake for thee, and make the habitation of thy righteousness prosperous.

Zophar Assumption

Job, you are guilty Job 11:1-4

Job, you are ignorant Job 11:5-12

Job, you are sinful Job 11:13-20

Eliphaz Experience

Job 22:23 If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

Job, you are suffering because you have sinned Job 22:1-11

Job, you are a hypocrite because you've hidded your sins Job 22:12-20

Job, you need to repent Job 22:21-30

They thought they knew / perceived they knew / believed they knew... no one knows what is going on in the life of another. No one knows what is going on in the heart of another. No one knows what God is doing in the life of another.

➤ God Tests Us

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, *here I am*.

➤ Satan Tempts Us

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, **Yea, hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die**:

Satan attack is to question the Word of God and the seriousness of what it says.

➤ Rain Falls on Just & Unjust

Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Refrigerators quit, tires get flat, and roofs leak. It just comes with *life*.

➤ Some Problems are of Our Own Making

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

We mess up – no one to blame. When we get into a mess – we did not get there overnight and we will not get out overnight. It will take time to get where we need to be.

➤ Sickness and Illness can Result from a Sin-cursed Earth

Sickness will be eliminated in the Millennium. Sickness is an indirect result of Adam's sin.

Isaiah 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Matthew 8:16-17 When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

➤ Old Age Brings on Difficulties (Death by sin... Rom. 5:12 – we are all dying)

Mind isn't old – Keep Learning

Humor isn't over – Keep enjoying life

Strength isn't gone – Keep using it

Opportunities haven't vanished – Keep pursuing them

God isn't dead – Keep Serving Him & Seeking Him

➤ Chastening from God is Between God & the One Being Chastened

Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint **when thou art rebuked of him**:

Show love to all in their difficult time. Weep with those that weep. "And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing."
1 Corinthians 13:2

Job's Response

➤ Job's helpless feeling

Job 6:2-4 Oh that my grief were throughly weighed, and my calamity laid in the balances together! For now it would be heavier than the sand of the sea: therefore my words are swallowed up. For the arrows of the Almighty *are* within me, the poison whereof drinketh up my spirit: the terrors of God do set themselves in array against me.

➤ Other's 'arguments' are in vain

Job 6:15 My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, *and* as the stream of brooks they pass away;

Job 6:25-30 How forcible are right words! but what doth your arguing reprove? Do ye imagine to reprove words, and the speeches of one that is desperate, *which are* as wind? Yea, ye overwhelm the fatherless, and ye dig *a pit* for your friend. Now therefore be content, look upon me; for *it is* evident unto you if I lie. Return, I pray you, let it not be iniquity; yea, return again, my righteousness *is* in it. Is there iniquity in my tongue? cannot my taste discern perverse things?

Job 16:2-4 I have heard many such things: miserable comforters *are* ye all. Shall vain words have an end? or what emboldeneth thee that thou answerest? I also could speak as ye *do*: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could heap up words against you, and shake mine head at you.

Job 21:34 How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?

➤ Job defends himself

Job 10:15 If I be wicked, woe unto me; and *if* I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. *I am* full of confusion; therefore see thou mine affliction;

Job 12:3 But I have understanding as well as you; *I am* not inferior to you: yea, who knoweth not such things as these?

Job 13:2-5 What ye know, *the same* do I know also: *I am* not inferior unto you. Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God. But ye *are* forgers of lies, ye *are* all physicians of no value. O that ye would altogether hold your peace! and it should be your wisdom.

Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

Job 16:17-21 Not for *any* injustice in mine hands: also my prayer *is* pure...Also now, behold, my witness *is* in heaven, and my record *is* on high. My friends scorn me: *but* mine eye poureth out *tears* unto God. O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man *pleadeth* for his neighbour!

➤ Job is alone

Job 19:13-19 He hath put my **brethren** far from me, and mine **acquaintance** are verily estranged from me. My **kinsfolk** have failed, and my **familiar friends** have forgotten me. They that **dwell in mine house**, and my **maids**, count me for a stranger: I am an alien in their sight. I called my **servant**, and he gave *me* no answer; I intreated him with my mouth. My breath is strange to my **wife**, though I intreated for the children's *sake* of mine own body. Yea, **young children** despised me; I arose, and they spake against me. All my **inward friends** abhorred me: and **they whom I loved** are turned against me.

Psalms 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.

Job 19:21 Have pity upon me...O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

➤ **Job is alone, but not alone**

Job 19:25 For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:

2 Timothy 4:16-17 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

➤ **Job has hope**

Job 19:26-27 And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; *though* my reins be consumed within me. (Hope for after death)

Job 23:10 ... *when* he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. (Hope for near future)

Job 23:12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary *food*. (Hope for today)

Job, with the help of God, will stand strong

Job 27:4-5 My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit. God forbid that I should justify you: **till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me.**

❖ **Integrity is in the heart**

- Relationship between your heart & God
- Honesty between your heart & God
- Ignore critics if your heart is right with God
- Purpose in your heart to do what is right

Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself...

Determine to Be a Person of Integrity

Job Continued

As Job concludes his remarks to his friends (Ch. 26-31), he assesses his own life:

- Job reflects on his past glory Ch 29 It was a life of wonderful blessing
- Job rehearses his present misery Ch 30 But now...life has turned & misery abounds
- Job reaffirms his personal integrity Ch 31 That God may know mine integrity (31:6)

Elihu Speaks Ch 32-37

The other three friends addressed Job's past – that he had been a hypocrite.

Elihu addressed Job's present – that Job needs to be submissive and humble.

Introduction 32:1-5

Elihu to Friends 32:6-22

Elihu to Job Ch. 33

Elihu to Friends Ch. 34

Elihu to Job Ch. 35-37

Elihu speaks – he is younger and has held his tongue, but seeing that there is no answer to Job, he now feels compelled to speak. Once he has begun, he is confident and qualified to straighten Job out.

Elihu first addresses Job's three friends

Job 32:10&12 Therefore I said, Hearken to me; I also will shew mine opinion...Yea, I attended unto you, and, behold, *there was* none of you that convinced Job, *or* that answered his words:

Elihu addresses Job

Job 34:35-37 Job hath spoken without knowledge, and his words *were* without wisdom. My desire *is that* Job may be tried unto the end because of *his* answers for wicked men. For he addeth rebellion unto his sin, he clappeth *his hands* among us, and multiplieth his words against God.

Job 35:2 Thinkest thou this to be right, *that* thou saidst, My righteousness *is* more than God's?

Job 35:16 Therefore doth Job open his mouth in vain; he multiplieth words without knowledge.

Consider the glory of God

Job 35:5 Look unto the heavens, and see; and behold the clouds *which* are higher than thou.

Job 36:5 Behold, God *is* mighty, and despiseth not *any*: *he is* mighty in strength *and* wisdom.

Job 36:26 Behold, God *is* great, and we know *him* not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.

Job 37:5 God thundereth marvellously with his voice; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend.

Job 37:14-16 Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and **consider the wondrous works of God**. **Dost thou know** when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine? **Dost thou know** the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?

We must have faith in God Himself, rather than an explanation:

Job 37:23-24 *Touching* the Almighty, we cannot find him out: *he is* excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict. Men do therefore fear him: he respecteth not any *that are* wise of heart.

God Speaks

Job 38:2-3 Who *is* this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

Job & his friends are trying to answer the question, "Why did this happen...?"

The Lord will always have the last word. As Elihu ends this last sentence, the Almighty speaks up with a sixty- question quiz (Wilmington) for Job.

Job 38:4-7 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding...Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Our Life

Psalms 39:5 Behold, thou hast made my days *as* an handbreadth; and mine age *is* as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity. Selah.

Psalms 90:4-5 For a thousand years in thy sight *are but* as yesterday when it is past...

Psalms 90:9-10 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale *that is told*. The days of our years *are* threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength *they be* fourscore years, yet *is* their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Psalms 144:4 Man is like to vanity: his days *are* as a shadow that passeth away.

Isaiah 40:15-18 Behold, the nations *are* as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance...All nations before him *are* as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

James 4:14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Deuteronomy 29:29 The secret *things belong* unto the LORD our God: but those *things which are* revealed *belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.

Job & the Lord

The perspective from the Lord

Job 38:18 Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all.

Job 40:2 Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct *him*? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.

To get the correct perspective on life, one must see things from the center of life. All revolves around the throne of God. It is from His throne that we get a proper perspective.

- True worth – “I own....” What about death? True worth is *after the Judgment Seat of Christ*

1 Corinthians 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

- Issues of the heart

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

Although we know *why* all this occurred, as we have read the first two chapters; Job was not meant to know the *why* of his sufferings. There are some things about life that one can only understand when / if God shows us. Job was to learn and Job was to teach us that we are to rest in God Himself, regardless of whatever occurs in our life.

- Time on earth

Luke 12:16-21 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Faith trusts God in spite of an absence of an explanation and seemingly contradictions from what we believe should happen.

Job repents

Job 40:4 Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.

Job has no self-righteousness, self-wisdom, self-vindication, self-everything...so he may find his all in God Himself.

There are no grudges, no demands, no expectations, offers no conditions, anticipates no favors....

Psalms 90:1-2 A Prayer of Moses the man of God. Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.

He is Lord over:

Creation 38:4-7	Oceans 38:8-11	The Morning 38:12-15	Hid Sources 38:16-18
Light/Dark 38:19-21	Elements 38:22-30	Stars 38:31-32	Laws of Nature 38:33-38
Beast 38:39 - 39:12	Bird & Beast 39:13-25	Vultures 39:26-30	

Behemoth Huge Dinosaur 40:15-24

Job 40:16 Lo now, his strength *is* in his loins, and his force *is* in the navel of his belly.

Job 40:23 Behold, he drinketh up a river, *and* hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth.

Leviathan Fire-breathing dragon 41:1-34

Job 41:19 Out of his mouth go burning lamps, *and* sparks of fire leap out.

Job 41:31 He maketh the deep to boil like a pot: he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment.

Job 41:34 He beholdeth all high *things*: he *is* a king over all the children of pride.

Job & the Lord Job 42:1-6

Job speaks **Job 42:2** I know that thou canst do every *thing*, and *that* no thought can be withholden from thee.

Lord speaks **Job 42:3** Who *is* he that hideth counsel without knowledge?

Job speaks **Job 42:3-4** therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak:

Lord speaks **Job 42:4** I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.

Job speaks **Job 42:5-6** I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor *myself*, and repent in dust and ashes.

Some reasons Job suffered

That Job might see God Job 42:5

That Job might see himself Job 40:4, 42:6

That Job's friends might learn not to judge Job 42:7

To show God's plan for his own eventual happiness

To teach Christians in the future about sufferings and the spiritual aspect to life

That Job might learn to pray for, rather than to lash out against his critics Job 42:10

Job Prays for His Friends

The Lord rebukes Job's friends

Job 42:7 And it was *so*, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me *the thing that is right*, as my servant Job *hath*.

The Lord defends Job

Job 42:8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you *after your folly*, in that ye have not spoken of me *the thing which is right*, like my servant Job.

The Lord turns Job's life around

Job 42:10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends...

Psalms 107:29-31 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for his goodness*, and *for his wonderful works to the children of men!*

Job had to forgive them

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Job is now on the blessing side

Job 42:10 ...also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Job is restored with his family & friends (Job 42:11)

Job is restored with his animals (Job 42:12)

Job is restored with his children (Job 42:13-14)

Job passes his legacy down (Job 42:15)

Job is glad he maintained his integrity (job 42:17)

Job now fully believes and understands:

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

2 Corinthians 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

We are to learn from Job

James 5:11 Behold, we count them **happy which endure**. Ye have heard of **the patience of Job**, and have seen **the end of the Lord**; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

What does James tell us? Endure trials, problems, heartaches, grief, afflictions from Satan, being hated by the world, and temptations of the flesh.

God's leading is not a misleading; but a learning adventure for His children:

Deuteronomy 8:15-16

“Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness,

wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and

drought, where *there was* no water;

who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that

he might humble thee, and

that he might prove thee,

to do thee good at thy latter end;”