



**Course:** A Survey of the Bible: Genesis to Revelation

**Lesson:** 20\_1 - Job Introduction

**For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.**

(Romans 15:4)

## The Book

- Perhaps the **earliest** book of the Bible.
- The book tells the story of a man, Job, who lost **everything** – his wealth, his family, his health and wrestles with the question of **why**.
- The events of Job happened in the **patriarch period** during the time of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. Most likely a contemporary of Isaac and Jacob.
  - Job lived **before** the average age of man was shortened to 70-80 years. He lived 140 years after his suffering. (Job 42:16)
  - He lived before sacrifices were confined to **one altar** as in Moses' time.
  - He lived during the time when God was known by the name **שַׁדַּי** Shadday {shad-dah'-ee} "Almighty" and not **יְהוָה** Yehovah {yeh-ho-vaw'} "Yahweh". "Shadday or Shaddai" is used more than 30 times in the book by Job and his friends.  
**יְהוָה** Yehovah is used in the heavenly courts and at the end of the book.
  - He lived during the time when divine knowledge was passed on by **tradition**, not by **writing**. **MEDITATE ON THIS!**
- This being true we must remember that Job's knowledge of God was **much less** than Moses, the Old Testament prophets, John the Baptist, the Apostles, **and us!**
- Job **did not** have the benefit of knowing what was going on in heaven while he lived – **WE DO!!**

- We need to remind ourselves of the words of Christ, ***“For unto whomever much is given, of him shall be much required.”*** Luke 12:48
- **REMEMBER** what Christ said of the cities in which He did great works – read Matthew 11:20-24.
- The Book of Job was written ***“for our learning”*** (Romans 15:4) – **WOE** unto us if we do not learn.
- The book begins (chapters 1-2) **in heaven** with a debate between God and Satan.
- Chapters 3 to 37 outline **three debates** that Job has with his friends.
- Chapters 38-42 deal with **GOD’s answer** to Job’s suffering.
- “Job” is referred to in Ezekiel 14:14, 20 along with Noah and Daniel. His patience is mentioned in James 5:11. Eliphaz is quoted in 1 Corinthians 13:19; Job 5:13)


## Christ in Job

- Job acknowledges a **REDEEMER** (see Job 19:25-27) – Christ is **THE REDEEMER** (Luke 1:68; Galatians 3:13; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Revelation 5:9, 14:3-4)
- He cries out for a **MEDIATOR** (Job 9:33 – Christ is **THE ONLY MEDIATOR** (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24; 1 John 2:1)
- “Job” is a picture of our suffering Christ.
  - Job suffered at the **will of God** while **“innocent”** so that **we** might learn more about God.
  - Christ suffered at the **will of God** while **“innocent”** for us. (1 Peter 3:18)
  - Job endured his suffering and was rewarded at the end of them, as Christ **endured the Cross** (Hebrews 12:2) for us.

## Job, the Man (Job 1:1-5)

- “the land of Uz” is probably in or near the land of Edom – see Lamentations 4:21.
- **HIS MANHOOD:** “There was a man . . .”
  - Job was a **REAL** man.
  - Job was subject to like passion as we are.



- **HIS CHARACTER:** “blameless(or perfect) (  tam {tawm} meaning “complete”; “whole”; “morally innocent”; “having integrity and upright”
  - “who feared God” –
    - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge” – Proverbs 1:7
    - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom” - Prov. 9:10; Job 28:28.
    - “The fear of the LORD is to depart from evil.” – Proverbs 3:7; 16:6
    - “The fear of the LORD is to hate evil.” – Proverbs 8:13
    - Consider carefully **Romans 11:13-22**.
  - “who shunned (turned away from; departed from) evil”
    - NT saints are commanded “to abstain from the appearance of evil” – 1 Thessalonians 5:22.
- **HIS FAMILY:** “seven sons and three daughters” – plus a wife. A family of **12**.
  - It appears that this was close family since the met regularly to celebrate together. (vv. 2, 4)
  - It obvious that this family enjoyed life and enjoyed it together.
- **HIS WEALTH:** “7000 sheep + 3000 camels + 500 yoke of oxen”
  - Job acknowledge that it was God who made him rich! (Job 1:21)
  - The riches of this world belong to God and He gives them to whomever He wishes. (1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalm 24:1; 1 Samuel 2:7; Deuteronomy 8:17-18; Job 1:10, 21; Ecclesiastes 5:19; Psalm 75:7)
  - Job used his wealth generously for the good of others. (4:1-4; 29:12-17; 31:16-32)
  - Job was obedient to the will of God as expressed by Paul to Timothy concerning rich people in 1 Timothy 6:17-19.
- **HIS REPUTATION:** “the greatest of all the people of the East”
  - ✓ Job was approved by **GOD** (vv. 1, 8) and . . .
  - ✓ Approved by **men** (v. 3)
- **HIS RELIGION:** Job **regularly** “interceded God” on behalf of his children (v. 5).
  - Job was **serious** about his religion and his (as well as his family’s) **relationship** with the Almighty God.
  - Job acted as the **priest** of the family. He represented his family to God.

- For Job there was a time and place for everything. There was time for feasting and partying **but** then he would call his family to their spiritual duties.

### **Job in the New Testament** (James 5:10-11)

- (v. 10) Remember the PROPHETS who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example *suffering* and *patience (fortitude)*.  
 ➤ (2 Corinthians 12:7-10) IMITATE PAUL - 1 Corinthians 11:1
- (v. 11) “Blessed are those who endure” - Matthew 10:22; Hebrews 10:36-39; 6:10-12.
- (v. 11) “perseverance” **ENDURANCE**: ὑπομονή hupomone {hoop-on-on-ay'} – steadfastness, constancy, endurance, perseverance, a patient enduring, cheerful endurance!
- **In the New Testament this is a characteristic of a man/woman who is not swerved from his/her deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings!**
- (v. 11) “**that** the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.”
- (Job 13:15) “Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.”

### **Lessons to Be Learned from Job**

- GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER GOOD AND EVIL! (**Isaiah 45:7**; Proverb 16:4; Lamentations 3:37-38; **Amos 3:6**; Romans 11:36; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 2:10; Revelation 4:11; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28; Luke 22:22; **Jeremiah 18:11**; Micah 2:3)
- GOD IS HOLY, PERFECT, and JUST in ALL that He does. (Deut 32:3-4)
- GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER OUR LIVES. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- Satan is a servant of the Lord. (Next Lesson)
- God is sovereign over suffering.
- God uses suffering to accomplish His eternal plan.
- There is NO LAW above the KING. The Lord answers to NO ONE! (Job 33:13; Daniel 4:35; Psalm 115:3; 135:6)
- We need to “see” God, El Shaddai, as He has revealed Himself. If we get a glimpse of Him we will “abhor ourselves, and repent **in dust and ashes**” (Job 42:5-6)
- We need to stand in AWE of GOD. (Psalm 33:8; 99:1; 2:11-12; Philippians 2:12)

