

LCC Concord Home Fellowship
Job Reference Guide

Simple Outline of the Book of Job

- Chapters 1-2: Heavenly Dialog
- Chapters 3-31: Job and his 3 “Friends”
- Chapters 32-37: Elihu Speaks Up
- Chapters 38-41: God Questions Job
- Chapter 42: God Restores Job

Chiastic Structure of the Book

Definition: A literary device where a sequence of ideas is presented and then repeated in reverse order, forming a mirrored **A-B-B-A** or **A-B-C-B-A** pattern.

- A. Prologue - 1:1-5
 - B. God’s Dialog - 1:6-22
 - B. God’s Dialog - 2:1-10
 - C. Three Friends with three Speeches - 2:11-25:23
 - D. Job’s Speech - 26 -27
 - E. Interlude of Wisdom - 28
 - D. Job’s Speech - 29-31
 - C. Three Friends replaced by Elihu - 32-37
 - B. God’s Dialog - 38-39
 - B. God’s Dialog - 40-41
- A. Epilogue - 42

Chiastic Structure of Chapter 1

- A. Job’s Righteousness - 1:1 (Job’s Condition)
 - B. Job’s Children - 1:2
 - C. Job’s Wealth - 1:3
 - D. Job’s Children Feasting - 1:4-5
 - E. God Dialogs with Satan - 1:6-12 (Job’s Test)
 - D. Job’s Children Feasting - 1:13
 - C. Job’s Wealth Lost - 1:14-17
 - B. Job’s Children Die - 1:18-19
- A. Job’s Righteousness - 1:20-22 (Job’s Condition)

About the Book of Job

- It is most likely the Oldest book of the Bible
- Probably written during the time of Abraham
- The book is written as an Epic Poem (like the Iliad or Odyssey)
- Job DOES NOT answer the Question: “Why do the Righteous Suffer?”
- That Question is never directly answered in the book.
- “Why do Christians Suffer? - Why Not? They are the only ones who can take it” - C.S. Lewis
- Job’s Primary Lesson: “How does mortal Man become justified before a Holy God?”
- Spiritual Challenges often happen when things are “good”
- Spiritual Growth happens DURING the Challenges
- The phrase “Son’s of God” refers to a direct creation of God (Angels and Adam)
 - Genesis 6:1-4, Luke 3:38
- The Phrase “Son of Adam” refers to a descendant of Adam
 - “Ben Adam” or Son of Man

Job's Illness

- Sore and Boils - 2:7
- Skin Issues - 7:5, 30:30
- Loss of appetite - 3:24
- Failing vision - 16:16
- Itching - 2:8
- Breath and Odor - 19:17
- Pain and Emaciation - 30:17
- Mental and Sleep distress - 7:4, 7:14
- Trouble breathing - 9:18
- Weight loss and rotting teeth - 19:20

God Speaks

- He will ask Job 77 questions
- He will question Job about 12 different animals
 - 10 wildlife: Lion, Raven, Goat, Deer, Donkey, Ox, Ostrich, Horse, Hawk, Eagle
 - 2 Magnificent Beasts: Behemoth (Land) Leviathan (Sea)

Job's Friends or Accusers

- Satan's heavy hitters, his big artillery is NOT the tornado's, NOT the Raiders, NOT the fire from heaven. IT IS THE RELIGIOUS COUNSELORS
- Job is NOT arguing a point - He is trying to understand his experience
- Job's Friends will TALK ABOUT GOD!
- Job with TALK TO GOD?
- Job's counselors are correct in their doctrine - They are incorrect in their application of it.

Eliphaz the Eloquent:

- He is a Temanite (most likely in the area of Edom)
- He has a Edomite name
- His arguments are based on Observation and Human Experience
- He concludes that Job is suffering because of sin in his life
- His speech is smooth and a courteous - he can say unpleasant things graciously.

Bildad the Brutal:

- He is a Shuhite (the land of Shuah, mostly named after Abraham's youngest son. Genesis 25:2)
- His arguments are based on Human Tradition
- He concludes that Job is suffering because he is a hypocrite
- His speech is outspoken and does not care about how it affects Job.

Zophar the Zealous:

- He is a Naamathite (possibly a Judean town)
- His arguments are based on Human Merit and Orthodox Dogma
- Job is suffering simply because he is a wicked man
- He is compassionate and emotional
- His speech is with passion and trying to motivate Job

Elihu the Enigmatic:

- His name means "My God is He"
- He is a Buzite from the land of Buz
- Uz and Buz were the first and second born son's of Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:20-21)
- Elihu is not rebuked by God (the other three were)
- He has the longest of the discourses
- He is Courteous and Sensitive while being Strong and Assertive
- He does NOT speak from experience but FROM Revelation
- He seems to act as a bridge between the "Comforters" and God (like an O.T. version of John the Baptist preparing the way)

Three Friends side by side

- Eliphaz - Observation - Moralist - Apologist
- Bildad - Tradition - Legalist - Lecturer
- Zophar - Assumption - Dogmatist - Bigot