

## Job – part 2

We all have questions we would like to ask, but nobody has bigger questions than our friend Job.

### **Job 1:1-3; 20-22**

“If God is good, then why do bad things happen?”

“If God is good and in control, then why does He let evil continue?”

“If God is good and in control, then why do bad things happen to good people?”

--There are good answers for these questions in the Bible and in Job in particular; not necessarily popular answers; not necessarily things you wanted to hear. But correct and good.

“Why do bad things happen?” The most accurate and all-encompassing answer is: **It’s too early to tell!**

--The full picture of all the reasons why things work out the way they do in our lives is at best a fuzzy one.

--There will come a day in which it’s all going to be said and done; it’s all going to make sense and be totally clear, but today is not that day!

--Its too early! **I Corinthians 13:9-12**

### **1. An early word of warning from the book of Job:**

Be careful when drawing hard and fast conclusions about yourself and your circumstances.

--“I know why this happened to me; it was because of thus and such”

You don’t really know the whole picture.

Be especially careful when asking someone else to draw conclusions about your situation and circumstances.

Be extra special, double asterisk, underscored, bold-faced careful when drawing conclusions about others.

--Do not make the same mistake that Job’s friends did—someone’s life may look bad or good but whether it truly is remains to be seen.

--**IT’s too early to tell!**

There may be no direct relationship between what someone has done and what they’ve experienced or are currently experiencing. Ask Job!

--You could be completely wrong about why things are the way they are in your life.

--This goes both ways: You may have many blessings, or you may have all kinds of curses, but why you have them remains to be seen

--Questions come when life doesn’t make sense, but it isn’t just on those occasions that we don’t have it figured out!

--“I had life all figured out until this happened”—no you didn’t!

--“If I do thus and such, this will always be the result” —no, not necessarily.

--You’re thinking like a Hindu—like a televangelist: “If I act good, good will always come to me/always happen in my life” No, not necessarily.

The Book of Job is a book of bad things happening for unseen reasons: Neither Job nor especially his friends had any clue as to what was the real cause of his suffering.

--Job has the potential to change much of our thinking about why things are the way they are.

--Job makes us ask some very tough questions and leads us to some very disturbing conclusions.

## **2. Unusual characteristics of Job.**

### **His Person**

--To understand the overall message of the book of Job, we need to first have its details as a foundation beneath us.

--Who was Job? Job was a man who was blameless, according to Scripture, **V. 1**

--Do you know anybody like that? If you do, make a special note of those people because they are rare. **Job was a rare man.**

--I've known some who would qualify, but they all had things Job didn't have: Bible, Holy Spirit, Fellowship, and accountability of the Saints.

Job is here so we can be impressed with him.

--Many have wanted to dispute Job's status including Job's friends and Satan and even some so-called theologians.

--There are no better words spoken about any individual anywhere in the entire Bible. Some who are equal but none who are better.

--We are going to see as we study his book, exactly what was inside of Job, inside his heart, more than any other person in Scripture.

--Job is going to be crushed before our eyes, he's going to be opened up, and we're going to find out what's really going on inside of this man.

--Job is going to be crushed possibly as much or more than anyone, short of Jesus Himself, ever was.

--If God crushed you, what would come out?

### **His Wealth**

--The Scripture says that Job had seven sons and three daughters, and his possessions included 7000 sheep, 3000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys.

--In terms of that day and age, suffice it to say, Job was rich—super rich.

--The Bible says that he was the greatest: **V.3**

### **His Parenting**

--Job was also very concerned about his children's spiritual conditions: **V. 5**

--Job was an awesome and amazing person according to the testimony of the Scriptures, and the Scriptures can be trusted.

### **His Book**

--Job is not Jewish—in a primarily Jewish book (the Bible), this is unusual! Shares a place with the book of Ruth in that regard.

--Doesn't take place in Israel – one of few books of which that can be said (Esther, Daniel, part of Jonah).

--It is considered the oldest book in the Bible and in history from the perspective of when it was written (Written about the time of Abraham, whereas, the oldest, otherwise, were the writings of Moses almost 500 years later).

--Almost the entire thing is written in poetry—you'll notice that many of our translations are set up in a lines and stanzas from chapter 3 on.

--But you will also notice that nothing rhymes—this is because we prefer things to rhyme in sound.

--There is another, better (maybe) way to rhyme and that is in meaning.

--Hebrew poetry and song almost never rhyme in sound but always do in meaning

### **Psalm 119:1-2**

His book gives us a perspective on the spirit world and events in Heaven that we really don't get

anywhere else.

--The “sons of God” is not talking about human beings, but about angels. **V. 6**

--What in the devil is the devil doing in Heaven?

--Don't we go to Heaven to get away from that dude? Yes and no.

**The Devil is in Heaven doing his job**—being the adversary and the accuser of all us sinners whom God loves.

--We may be familiar with what sin has done to us, but not so familiar with what it has done to God.

--It has given the Devil the right/job to accuse us before Him for thousands of years now.

--It's not just us who he accuses; he also accuses God Himself.

What's fair and logical is: **Ez. 18:20**,

--But that's not what happens because: **II Pet. 3:9**.

--The result is that God has to tolerate the Devil in the interim because He loves sinners (That's the only problem God has!)

--Nevertheless, what is fair and logical will prevail; sin—all sin, will be paid for—this interim of grace is here for us to determine how we want that done!

--Either you pay for your own sins in Hell for all eternity or allow the Hell that Jesus went through on the cross to pay for your sins—the option is yours.

--What in the devil is the devil doing in Heaven? We put him there!

He's also on earth because he belongs here—earth is not a safe place.

--The only reason he hasn't done to you and I what he gets to do to Job is because God is protecting us.

--Lose the notion that you are protected by anything else: our wealth, our know-how, safe country, hearts of men, our righteousness—none can protect us from him.