The Book of Job
Session 2
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Chiasmic Structure of Job

The Speakers by Chapter

Eliphaz 4-5, 15, 22
Bildad 8, 18, 25
Zophar 11, 20
Wisdom 28
Elihu 32-37
YWHW 38-41
Prologue 1-2
Epilogue 42:7-17
Job 3, 6-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16-17, 19, 21, 23-24, 26-27, 29-31, 42:1-6
Three Biblical References to Job

Job is a Model of Righteousness
Ezekiel made two statements about Job, attributed to God Himself.
1. Ezekiel 14:13-14. “Son of man, if a country sins against Me by committing unfaithfulness, and I stretch out My hand against it, destroy its supply of bread, send famine against it and cut off from it both man and beast, even though these three men, Noah, Daniel and Job were in its midst, by their own righteousness (tsedeqah, צְדָקָה) they could only deliver themselves, declares the Lord GOD.”
2. Ezekiel 14:19-20. “Or if I should send a plague against that country and pour out My wrath in blood on it to cut off man and beast from it, even though Noah, Daniel and Job were in its midst, as I live,’ declares the Lord GOD, ‘they could not deliver either their son or their daughter. They would deliver only themselves by their righteousness.”

Job is a Model of Patience
3. James 5:11. The third biblical reference, found in the New Testament, comments not only on Job’s righteousness but also on his patience. “We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance [hypomone, ὑπομονή] of Job and have seen the outcome [telos, τέλος] of the Lord’s dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”

Job’s Suffering is not Mentioned
It seems significant that neither these writers even mentions Job’s suffering. Perhaps this is an indication that Job’s life should be visualized in the larger context of his upright character, endurance, and steadfastness.
Job is Quoted 3X in the NT

1. Romans 11:33, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!” (quoting Eliphaz in Job 5:9 and Zophar in 11:7).
2. Romans 11:35, “WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN?” (quoting Elihu in Job 35:7 and God in Job 41:11).
3. 1 Corinthians 3:19, “For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, ‘He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS.’” (quoting Eliphaz in Job 5:13).

Job is Quoted 3X in the NT

Observations:
• Paul quoted Elihu alongside God, giving no more or less weight to the speaker.
• Paul also quoted Eliphaz, even though Eliphaz was occasionally wrong (Job 42:7).
• Paul wrote 1 Corinthians in 55AD from Ephesus, during his third journey. He wrote Romans in 56AD from Corinth, near the end of his third journey. So he must have been carrying the Book of Job with him.
Prologue

Job 1:1. “There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil.”

1. Job was blameless (tam, תָּם), as translated in the ESV, NASB, NIV, and RSV. The major Hebrew lexicons ascribe the following range of meanings to this Hebrew word: “complete, morally sound, wholesome,” or “pure, orderly, blameless.” The KJV “perfect,” is an unfortunate translation since it does not fit the range of meanings.

2. Job was also upright (yashar, יָשָׁר), meaning “straight, doing what is right, pleasing to God.” This word describes a general pattern of behavior, rather than one who is perfect in all aspects of moral purity.

3. The Hebrew word righteous (tsedek, צַדִּיק), would be used to convey the idea of sinless perfection, but Job 1:1 does not use that word, nor is it stated that Job had never sinned.

4. God told Satan there was “no one like him in the earth.” that he was “fearing God and turning away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause.” (Job 2:3).
### Job’s Initial Portfolio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Inventory (Job 1:3)</th>
<th>Current market price per head</th>
<th>Market Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Camels</td>
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<td>500</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>85,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donkeys</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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### Job’s Final Portfolio

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Inventory (Job 42:12)</th>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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Satan

• Satan (שָׂטָן) appears without prior introduction in 1:6 (first use in the Bible).
• Hebrew word means “adversary.”
• Job never blamed Satan.
• Job himself affirmed the omnipotence of YHWH in the Prologue, Dialogue, and Epilogue (1:21; 12:9; 42:1).
• Job 2:8 is the last mention of Satan.

Satan

• Satan was among the “sons of God” in 1:6.
• Job 38:4-7 uses Hebrew parallelism: “morning stars” are same as the “sons of God,” a reference to angels (1:6; 2:1; Ps 148:1-3).
• Satan and the angels were probably created on Day 4 along with the stars.
• “Foundations of the earth” created on Day 3.
• Man was created on Day 7, and bears the image and likeness of God.
• Satan led the angelic rebellion sometime between Day 7 and Genesis 3.
Satan

- “Sons of God” (*bene Elohim, bene-הָאֱלֹהִים*), a technical term in construct, occurs twice in Genesis (6:2, 4) and three times in Job (1:6, 2:1, and 38:7). See also Psalm 29:1; Daniel 3:25, etc.
- In the OT always refers to angels, whether elect or fallen. Satan is included among them (1:6).
- Five occurrences in the NT: Matthew 5:9 Luke 20:36; Romans 8:14, 19; and Galatians 3:26. All refer to redeemed human beings, specifically Christians.
- Thus, the term “sons of God” emphasizes a characteristic shared by Christians and angels, which is that they live eternally (Luke 20:36; Gal 3:26).

Adam vs. Job

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Genesis 3</th>
<th>Job 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The world</td>
<td>Antediluvian</td>
<td>Post-diluvian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The tester</td>
<td>God</td>
<td>Satan on behalf of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The tested</td>
<td>Adam</td>
<td>Job</td>
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<tr>
<td>The sin</td>
<td>Disobedience</td>
<td>Faithlessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The covering</td>
<td>Animal sacrifice</td>
<td>Animal sacrifice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Satan

- If Adam represents the antediluvian world and Job the post-diluvian world, we see that mankind in each dispensation needs a redeemer.
- Adam was the only man who became a sinner by sinning, Job was born with a sin nature.

Who Has the REAL “Evil Problem”?

**Christian:** Good/Evil Mix is “Abnormal” & Temporary
Creator: \( \infty \rightarrow \text{Good} \rightarrow \infty \)

Creation: \( \text{Cr} \rightarrow \text{F} \rightarrow \text{Good} \rightarrow \text{Evil} \rightarrow \text{J} \)

**Pagan:** Good/Evil Mix is Forever “Normal”

\( \infty \rightarrow \text{Good} \rightarrow \text{Evil} \rightarrow \infty \)
Royal Court (1:6-12)

1. Satan had access to heaven and could speak directly to God.

2. Royal Court depicted in 1 Kings 22:19-22. Angels are in session to form a heavenly assemblage with the specific purpose of dealing with wicked King Ahab, 7th king of Israel & husband of Jezebel, who introduced Baal worship into the Northern Kingdom. A “deceiving spirit” was commissioned to put false counsel in the mouths of Ahab’s 400 prophets, to entice him into battle to be killed.

Royal Court (1:6-12)

3. Royal Court is seen elsewhere in scripture: Job 1:6; 2:1; Psalm 82:1; 89:6–7; 103:19–20; 148:1–2; Zech 6:5–8; cf. 1 Tim 5:21; Heb 12:22; Rev 5:11–12; 7:11–12; 14:10), though this in no way need be construed that they meet to inform God or to intercede for those on earth.

4. God presides over Royal Court.

5. Another title of Satan, “the accuser of our brethren” (Rev 12:10).
Royal Court (1:6-12)

6. Satan currently has access to both heaven and earth, and seeks to destroy Christians. 1 Peter 5:8, “Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

7. Satan believed that if Job lost his wealth, he would curse God.

8. 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12 describes a future event in which Satan will deceive all who have rejected the Gospel. This may be involve a Royal Court decree at that time.

Royal Court (1:6-12)

9. God, meanwhile, is carrying out His plan of redemption, and angels are mere agents (1 Pet 1:12; Heb 1:14; 2:16).

10. Unfulfilled prophecy in Daniel 7:26 that the Royal Court will “sit for judgment” during the Great Tribulation, and will decree to “take away, annihilate and destroy” Antichrist’s kingdom. The fulfillment of this prophecy is seen in Revelation 19:20; 20:10.

11. The authority of the Royal Court will eventually be given to the church (1 Cor 15:20-28; 1 Cor 6:3).
Job’s Crushing Losses

Job lost his wealth and all his children and separate, apparently unrelated attacks. Satan was behind each, and employed four different intermediaries:

• Two natural forces
  – Wind
  – Fire
• Two human agents
  – Chaldeans
  – Sabeans

Job’s Crushing Losses

• Job did not see this as the product of Satan’s work, or of random chance.
• Job affirmed his belief in God’s omnipotence.
• Job affirmed God’s right to take these things from him (1:21).
• Job used YHWH’s name three times in Job 1:21, underscoring his belief that God was not violating His covenant promises.
Job’s Crushing Losses

- Job later spoke one entire chapter on each proposition in 1:21:
- Chapter 29, “The Lord Gave”
- Chapter 30, “The Lord Has Taken Away”

Both verbs are in the perfect tense (continuous, sustained action), so the first should read, “The Lord has Given.”

- Job did not sin or blame God, even though the Third Commandment had not yet been given.