

Lesson 2

Prologue Of Book

Written in Prose

Testing Of Job

Home And Character Of Job

JOB 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz [Edom], whose name was Job, and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God, and turning away from evil.

1. The author introduces us to a man “whose name was Job.”
2. Job is from “the land of Uz.”
 - a. Uz is Edom. (Gen. 36:33; Lam. 4:21).
 - b. See introduction to Job for more details in regard to Uz.
 - c. It was located east of Canaan in an area near a desert. (Job 1:19).
 - d. Edom was southeast of the Dead Sea.
3. He was a man of outstanding character.
 - a. He “was blameless, upright.”
 - b. This does not mean sinless. (Rom. 3:10,11, 23). See Job 7:20, 21; 13:26; 14:16, 17.
 - c. He was a man of great spiritual maturity and character.
 - d. He feared or revered God. See Prov. 1:7; Eccles. 12:13.
 - e. He turned “away from evil.” Psa. 1:1; Job. 1:8.
4. The name Job occurs extra-biblically in the Berlin Execration Texts as the prince of the land of Damascus 19th cen. B.C. and later around 1400 B.C. as a prince of Pella (modern Fahil).

Family And Wealth Of Job

JOB 1:2 And seven sons and three daughters were born to him.

1. It is assumed that Mrs Job was the mother of these 10 children.
2. See Job 42:13. He was blessed again with “seven sons and three daughters.”

3 It appears that Mrs Job was the mother of all these children. Job was not a polygamist. We only have mention of one Mrs Job.

JOB 1:3 His possessions also were 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, 500 female donkeys, and very many servants; and that man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

1. He had “many servants.” (Job 1:3, 15-17; 31:13).
2. Riches can be a great danger. (Prov. 30:8).
3. The New Testament warns of the danger of riches. (Matt. 19:23,24; Lk. 12:16-21; 1 Tim. 6:6-10, 17).
4. Men like Job and Abraham demonstrate some men can handle wealth (Gen. 13:2), but not many (Matt. 19:24).

GEN 13:2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.

5. Job was a very successful man, but did not stand condemned because of his wealth.

JOB 1:4 And his sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. NIV “His sons used to take turns holding feasts in their homes.” See Job 1:15, 19

1. “His day” may refer to the sons birthdays.
2. It can refer to some other special day celebrated by his sons.
3. The “feast” (1:4) lasted a period of time - “days of feasting”. (1:5).

JOB 1:5 And it came about, when the days of feasting had completed their cycle, that Job would send and consecrate them, rising up early in the morning and offering burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed [spoken evil of] God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually.

1. “days of feasting” are not defined.
2. Job appears as a priest by offering “burnt offerings.” See Gen. 8:20
3. He was attempting to keep his children on the right path. See Prov. 22:6

Council In Heaven Sons Of God

- Angels are required to give account of their activities.

JOB 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God [angels] came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan [the Adversary] also came among them. Job 38:7

- “NIV” renders “sons of God” angels. Heb. (bene elohim)
1. The words “sons of God” are used in a variety of ways.

- a. Early the words seem to describe the Sethites. (Gen. 6:1-4).
 - b. It is used to denote those who have accepted Christ. (Gal. 3:26, 27).
 - c. It is used of Adam. (Lk. 3:38).
 - d. Christ was “the Son of God.” (Matt. 16:16).
 - e. Here it seems certain that it denote angels who are created beings. (Psa. 148:2,5).
2. Satan arrogantly enters God’s presence by permission of God. No one could enter His presence without His permission.

Note:

HEB 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "Thou art My Son, Today I have begotten Thee"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me"?

- 1. The Hebrew writer is quoting from the 2nd Psalm and affirms this language “Thou art My Son” was never used of the angels. See Psa. 2:7.
- 2. He is not affirming angels collectively were never called “the sons of God” or that God’s spiritual children are never called “sons of God.”
- 3. Neither angels or men are exalted as Christ and neither are Deity.
- 4. Only Christ is Deity. (Heb. 1:8; Jn. 1:1; Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:5-8; Jn. 10:30; 14:9).

JOB 1:7 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

- 1. “Satan” is here introduced. Moses had first introduced him in the garden of Eden. (Gen. 3:1, 4, 14; Rev. 12:9).
- 2. “Satan” is known by a variety of names in the word of God.
 - a. Devil (Matt. 4:7).
 - b. Satan (Matt. 12:26).
 - c. Abaddon or Apollyon (Rev. 9:11).
 - d. The great dragon, the old serpent, the deceiver of the whole world, the accuser of the brethren. (Rev. 12:9, 10).
 - e. Adversary (1 Pet. 5:8).
 - f. Beelzebub (Matt. 12:24).
 - g. Belial (2 Cor. 6:15).
 - h. An enemy (Matt. 13:38).

- i. The evil one (Matt. 13:19).
- j. Father of lies, a liar, a murderer (Jn. 8:44).
- k. "The god of this world." (2 Cor. 4:4).
- l. Ruler of this world (Jno. 12:31).
- m. Prince of the power of the air. (Eph. 2:2).
- n. The tempter (Matt. 4:3).

3. He is very powerful and dangerous. (1 Pet. 5:8).

4. In the book of Revelation he appears as the accuser of God's people. (Rev. 12:10).

5. Is Satan Deity? No

- a. He is not all-powerful.
- b. He can be resisted. (Jas. 4:7).
- c. His power to afflict was limited by God. (Job 1:12; 2:6).

JOB 1:12 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.

JOB 2:6 So the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life."

- d. His authority over the world kingdoms was "delivered" to him. (Lk. 4:6). See Rev. 20:10.

LUK 4:6 And the devil said to Him [Jesus], "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

- e. He can "snatch" no one from the Lord's hand. (Jn. 10:28).
- f. He was cast from heaven. (Rev. 12:9).
- g. He will be thrown into the lake of fire. (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10).

5. Satan must be a fallen angel.

- a. He is not human. Humans are finite and they cannot enter heaven as flesh. (1 Cor. 15:50).
- b. He is not Deity. Satan is not omnipresent, or omniscient, or omnipotent.
- c. He must be an angel who was created good, and rebelled against God before the garden of Eden. (Gen. 3:1).
- d. **Revelation 12 is not a record of the fall of Satan**, but it is a scene that occurred after the cross.

- 1) Satan is no longer able to accuse the brethren.
- 2) Before the cross Satan could claim victory over man, but now he is defeated by the blood of the Lamb. (Rev. 12:7-12).

REV 12:7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war,

REV 12:8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

REV 12:9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

REV 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

REV 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death.

REV 12:12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

6. Here Satan is pictured as one who is implying that all are evil.
7. God disagrees with Satan.

God Praises Job **"Have You Considered My servant Job?"**

JOB 1:8 And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."

1. God praises the character of Job.
2. What a fine man he was! God Himself is praising Job.

Satan's Charge

JOB 1:9 Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

JOB 1:10 "Hast Thou not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land."

1. Satan charged that Job is a mercenary.
2. God had bribed or paid the profane Job to act piously.
3. What Satan charged is true of some men, but not of all and not of Job.
4. Satan's charge is also a charge against God by affirming God must buy obedience.

JOB 1:11 "But put forth Thy hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse Thee to Thy face."

1. Satan was confident that suffering would lead Job to curse God.

2. Satan was wrong, and clearly revealed he is not omniscient.

God Speaks To Satan

JOB 1:12 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.

1. Satan is not permitted to touch the body of Job.
2. In the trials to follow we have a vivid picture of what Satan will do to a believer or a non-believer if he has the opportunity.

First Trial Of Job Four Messengers

JOB 1:13 Now it happened on the day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house,

1st Messenger

JOB 1:14 that a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them,

JOB 1:15 and the Sabeans [Arab nomads] attacked and took them. They also slew the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you. "

1. The "Sabeans" were from the land of Sheba, in South Arabia and were descendants of Shem. (Gen. 10:28).
2. This kind of news would cause some to turn from God, but not Job.

2nd Messenger

JOB 1:16 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you."

1. In a very short time Job learns that much of his wealth has been destroyed.
2. More of his servants were also killed.

3rd Messenger

JOB 1:17 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands and made a raid on the camels and took them and slew the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you."

1. The "Chaldeans" were from the East, land of Abraham.
2. They were Semitic Aramaeans who finally invaded Mesopotamia.

Job's Children Killed By A Great Wind "Oldest Brother's House"

4th Messenger

JOB 1:18 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house,

JOB 1:19 and behold, a great wind came from across the wilderness [desert] and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people and they died; and I alone have escaped to tell you. "

1. A man's children are dearer to him than any earthly treasure or even his own life.
2. Satan killed all 10 of his children [called "young people"] thinking this would break Job.
3. Satan is not omniscient or he would have known this would not break Job.

Response of Job Job Blesses God

JOB 1:20 Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

1. Job displays his grief and worships God. See Grief (Gen. 37:28 Isa. 7:20; Jere. 7:29).
2. Suffering did not turn Job from God, but it does turn many away from God.

JOB 1:21 And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

1. He feels he has virtually been reduced to the day of his birth - he has nothing.
2. Job states he came into the world with nothing and believes he will leave it with nothing.
3. This will be the case with all. (Eccles. 5:15; 1 Tim. 6:7).

ECC 5:15 As he had come naked from his mother's womb, so will he return as he came. He will take nothing from the fruit of his labor that he can carry in his hand.

1TI 6:7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

Job Sins Not Nor Blames God

JOB 1:22 Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame [curse, criticize, speak evil of] God.

1. He did not speak evil of God even though he did not understand his suffering.
2. Later he utters some foolish and sinful things, but he endured unbelievable trials without losing his faith in God.
3. Satan had not defeated him, and would seek to add to Job's suffering thinking this would break him.

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