

Overview: *The Sovereignty of God and the Goodness of God are both true regardless of the issues of life that seem to deny and deface.*

Sermon: _____ and _____
God is a Just God Even in Trials and Pain

1. The _____ (Job 1,2)

2. The _____ (Job 3-37)

3. The _____ (Job 38-41)

4. The _____ (Job 42)

Lessons: *What has God taught you?*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Central Message: **God is Just even in Trials and Pain**

Key Passage: *Job 1:20-21 Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshiped. He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; **blessed be the name of the Lord.**"*

Summary: Job is the first of the 5 Poetical or Wisdom Books of the OT. It's topic of pain and suffering is central to the life of humans. Sometimes the misfortunes of life can seem embarrassing. Have you tended to put a mask on instead of being authentic? Job could not wear a mask because everyone knew his trial. God initiates a trial for Job with the Accuser (Satan) and we have a double trial. Then we have the wisdom of man on display followed by God speaking into the moment with His divine wisdom. The response from Job is humility, reverence, and prayer – which is the right response to all trials. Friends are rebuked by God, prayed for by Job, and restored. Job's life is restored and revived with no explanation of why suffering occurred from God's hand. The answer is to trust in humility the Almighty Hand that brings blessing and pain.

Writer: **Unknown but possibly Job, Moses or Solomon.**

Date of Events for Job: (1950, 1440, 950bc)

Themes:

1. **God is sovereign and just regardless of pain, suffering and trial.**
2. **Suffering is part of life and God oversees it for His glory.**
3. **There is no earning of God's goodness or grace. He grants it.**
4. **The response to God is humility, gratitude, and praise.**

Quotes: *Job has important wisdom that we need. Wisdom for people who struggle with loss. Wisdom for people who feel like losers. Wisdom for people who know themselves to be losers... We often suffer; we sometimes understand; we can always trust.* **Dever**

: Maybe you would think that the primary question of Job is, "Why do bad guys prosper and good guys suffer?" And you do see that question here; you see the suffering of a righteous man. You would be tempted to think, "Doesn't my righteousness get me something?" Job echoes Psalm 73, where Asaph is looking around, and the bad guys are prospering, and the good guys are suffering, and he says this, it's rather humorous, he says, "Surely for no reason have I kept myself pure. I've obeyed for this? This is the game?" **Tripp**

: The book delves into issues near to the heart of every human who experiences suffering. The prologue provides a fascinating peek into the back story—why God allowed Satan to afflict Job with such pain and turmoil. Then, through a series of dialogues and monologues arranged in a pattern of threes, human wisdom attempts to explain the unexplainable, until finally God Himself speaks. **Swindoll**

Interesting Facts:

1. Pain inevitably comes to all of us. Suffering is continuous in this life. Your true relationship with God will support when trials come. Your trust in God will give strength in your suffering. Spend time with the Almighty. Pray for a stronger faith in the powerful Creator. Pray for a right perspective of Him in the trial and pain.
2. The worth of God is beyond the pain of sufferings. The worship of God is most powerful in the midst of trial and tribulations.
3. Right theology does not insure right conclusions. Keep your eyes on Jesus during the pain and you will see a clearer picture of life and eternity.
4. No one knows the author, setting, time, or audience for this book of Job but it is considered to be a literary masterpiece.
5. Job is mentioned outside this book in the Scripture with Ezekiel (14:14,20) and James (5:11). The Jewish acceptance is without exception.

Detailed Book Outline (Blue Letter)

1. Job's Distress (1,2)

- A. His Prosperity (1:1-15)
- B. His Adversity (1:6-2:13)
- C. His Perplexity (3)

2. Job's Defense (4-37)

- A. The First Round (4-14)
 1. Eliphaz (4-5) Job's reply (6,7)
 2. Bildad (8) Job's reply (9,10)
 3. Zophar (11) Job's reply (12-14)
- B. The Second Round (15-21)
 1. Eliphaz (15) Job's reply (16,17)
 2. Bildad (18) Job's reply (19)
 3. Zophar (20) Job's reply (21)
- C. The Third Round (22-37)
 1. Eliphaz (22) Job's reply (23,24)
 2. Bildad (25) Job's reply (26-31)
- D. Young Elihu Speaks (32-37)
 1. Contradicting Job's friends (32)
 2. Contradicting Job himself (33)
 3. Showing God's justice, goodness, and majesty (34-37)

3. Job's Deliverance (38-42)

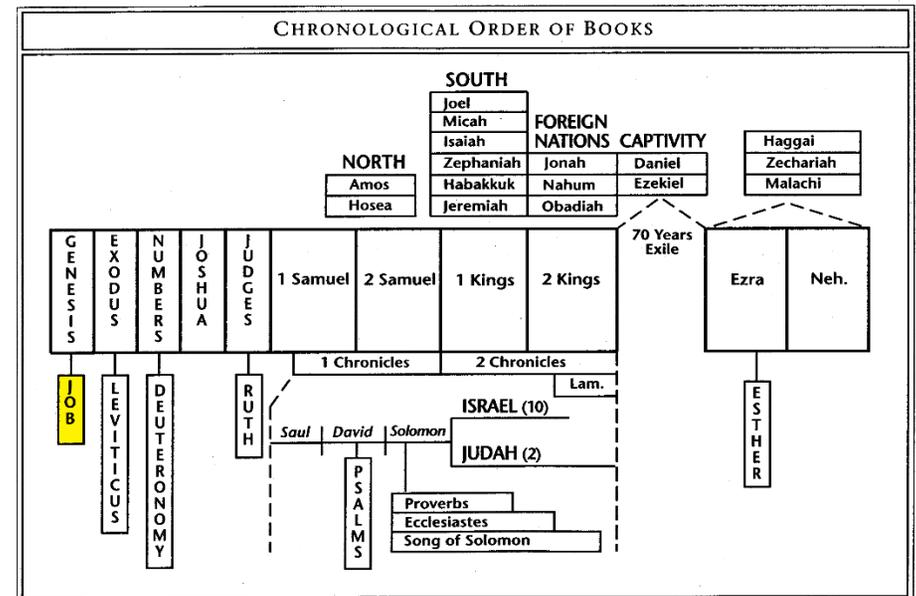
- A. God Humbles Job (38-42:6)
 1. Through questions too great to answer (38:1-41:34)
 2. Job acknowledges his inability to understand (42:1-6)
- B. God Honors Job (42:7-17)
 1. God rebukes his critics (42:7-10)
 2. God restores his wealth (42:11-17)

Simple Outline

1. _____ (1-2)
2. _____ (3-37)
3. _____ (38-41)
4. _____ (42)

Questions for Reflections: (Dever)

1. Who caused Job to suffer? The Sabeans, Chaldeans, or wind. Satan. God. All of the above. Explain.
2. What answer does Job give to question 1, and what does the narrator think of Job's answer (1:21-22; 2:10)?
3. Does God ever tell Job why he suffered? What answer does God give Job? Would you be content with this answer? Why or why not?
4. When Satan tempted Eve he said to her that she would be like God, knowing good and evil (Gen.3:5). How do we humans fall prey to this exact same lie when we attempt to explain suffering?
5. Why is Job's response in 42:1-6 indicative of a righteous man? (Pr.1:7)
6. The very strong statement that if we insist on living only according to our understanding and completely apart from trust, then we cannot be a Christ. Why is this true? What does this have to do with suffering?
7. In your mind, which is better? Living according to your own understanding, or living according to a belief in God's power? In times of trial, which do you do?
8. All things being equal, which glorifies God more? Praying in thanks after a touchdown in end zone or giving God thanks in the losers locker room.
9. How does the man Job point us to Jesus Christ?
10. Christians are often embarrassed to admit they are suffering, feeling down, or experiencing difficulty. Why does such hesitancy potentially hurt our gospel witness? What sort of culture and relationship should we cultivate in our churches that would address this issue?



Quick overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQwnH8th fs&t=2s>