

Job

April 16, 2023

Introduction:

Title:

Job's name means persecuted; he that weeps or cries out of a hollow place; sorrowful.
Job has been called the book of the mystery of suffering and the book of blessing through suffering.

Author:

Probably written by Job himself (19:23, 24) since he lived 140 years after these events took place (42:16). Some suggested Moses or Elihu as possible authors.

Date:

Covers a period of only a few weeks or possibly a few months' time.
It was probably written during the time of the patriarchs.
It is believed to be the first book of the Bible written.

Purpose:

To deal with the problem of why the righteous suffer and to reconcile suffering with the justice and love of God.
To show Job as God's example of patience under suffering (Jas 5:11).
To reveal Job to himself and to teach repentance.

Summary:

Job, a godly man, suffered the loss of his fortune, family, and personal health. He was baffled by his affliction not knowing that he was the target of a conflict between God and Satan. His three friends; Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar, "confronted" him by trying to convince him that his suffering was punishment from God because of his personal sin. Elihu, shedding partial light on the situation, explained Job's suffering as being chastisement sent to purify Job. Finally, God spoke putting Job and his three friends in their place. Job's suffering was designed as a trial in which Job could prove himself in opposition to Satan. Since Job did not pass the trial entirely without blemish, it also had the effect of purifying him. In the end, Job was blessed with a double portion of all he had before.

Christ is seen as the Priest, whose patient suffering was inflicted by Satan but purposed by God.

Job was a type of Christ in that he was a righteous sufferer. Job underwent a humiliation and exaltation that finds its antitype in the suffering and glory of the Redeemer. Just as God meant good for Job through his sufferings (Job 42:12), so He meant good for Christ through His sufferings. Jesus is the righteous sufferer who shows forth the righteousness of God

Ways to see Jesus in the book of Job.

Some people struggle with the book of Job because, when they look at the life of Jesus, they can't find anything in the ministry of Jesus that corresponds to Job's story. But when you look at the cross, you find all kinds of similarities to Job's experience. If Job's early success corresponds to Christ's earthly ministry, his trial corresponds to Christ's death, and his restoration corresponds to Christ's resurrection.

1. Job was tested by God when he was tempted by the devil.
Jesus was tested by God when He was tempted by the devil.
2. Job cried, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there" (Job 1:21).
Jesus died naked on a cross (Mt 27:35; Mk 15:24; Ps 22:18)
3. Job was so disfigured by his sufferings that his friends didn't recognize him (Job 2:12).
Jesus' "face was marred more than any man" at His execution (Isa 52:14).

4. Eliphaz taunted Job to call out to God for help (Job 5:1).
Jesus was also taunted "He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him" (Mt 27:43).
5. Some of the things said by the Messiah in Psalms 22 remind us of Job's speeches.
"They gape at Me with their mouths, like a raging and roaring lion" (Job 22:13; Ps 22:13).

"They gape at me with their mouth, they strike me reproachfully on the cheek, they gather together against me (Job 16:10; Psalms 22:13).
6. Job cried out, "O earth, do not cover my blood" (16:18).
The earth didn't cover Jesus' blood, it speaks before God on our behalf (Heb 11:4).
7. Job said, "Why do You hide Your face, and regard me as Your enemy?" (13:24).
Jesus cry on the cross, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Mt 27:46).
Both Job and Jesus asked the why question.
8. In the hour when Job needed his friends most, they failed him.
At His arrest, His friends forsook Him (Mt 26:56).
9. When you look at the source of Job's trial, you realize Job was attacked by people, by Satan, and by God.
And when you look at the cross, you realize that Jesus was killed by the same trilogy. He was crucified by people (the Roman soldiers and Jewish leaders), by Satan (who entered Judas Iscariot, and who filled the Jewish leaders with envy), and by God (who gave His Son for us all).
10. Eliphaz became so frustrated at Job that he leveled concocted charges against him (Job 22:6-9).
Jesus was falsely accused by false witnesses at His trial before the high priest (Mk 14:57-59).
11. Job was raised up from his sufferings after He interceded for his friends. (Job 42:7-10).
Jesus was raised up as our great Intercessor (Heb. 7:25).
12. When God accepted Job (42:9) He raised him up.
When God accepted Christ's sacrifice (Rom 4:25) He raised Him up.
13. In the bitterness of his soul, Job cried, "He destroys the blameless and the wicked" (Job 9:22).
On Golgotha's hill you're looking at the death of both the blameless and the wicked.
14. Both Job and Jesus suffered in the will of God (1Pt 4:19).

Note: There are rich Messianic prophecies in Job

Job 9:32-33 "For He is not a man as I am that I may answer Him, That we may go to court together. 33 "There is no umpire between us, Who may lay his hand upon us both.

Job 19:25-27 "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth. 26 "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God; 27 Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!

References used:

Old Testament Survey; by Ken Malmin and Kevin Connor
Ways to find Jesus in the book of Job (by Bob Sorge)
Thru the Bible Commentary; by J Vernon McGee