

## Old Testament Survey - **Job**

**Author:** Unknown

**Date:** Uncertain - Patriarchal Period (Length of Job's life; wealth in terms of livestock; Job is priest of family offering sacrifices; Chaldeans are still nomads).

**Theme:** "Suffering and Sovereignty"

Jehovah is sovereign.

Offer worship to God regardless of circumstances.

Bad circumstances are not always due to sin.

### **Outline:**

I. PROLOGUE 1-2 (Previous state & start of testing:)

II. DIALOGUES 3-41

A. Job's dialogues with "friends." (3-37)

1. Job's Opening Lament (3)

2. 3 Cycles with 3 "friends." (4-28)

3. Job's closing statements. (29-31)

4. Elihu's wisdom. (32-37)

B. God's dialogue with Job. (38-41)

III. EPILOGUE 42

A. Job's repentance. (42:1-6)

B. Job's friends rebuked. (42:7-9)

C. Job's restoration. (42:10-17)

**Key People:** Job, Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar, Elihu

**Key Chapters & Verses** (Bold verses are required for Elders)

**1-2** - Job's previous state, origin & start of trial

1:21 - *"And he said, 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, & naked I shall return there. The LORD gave...taken away...Blessed be the name of the LORD.'"*

**3-37** - Job's friends' counsel. Does God allow the innocent to suffer?

7:17 - *"What is man that Thou dost magnify him, and that Thou art concerned about him."*

**13:15-16** - Trust while in despair - *"Though He slay me, I will hope in Him . . ."*

**14:14-15** - Hope of immortality & glorification. *"If a man dies will he live again?...I will wait, Until my change comes ...Thou wilt call, and I will answer Thee; Thou wilt long for the work of Thy hands."*

**19:25-27** - *"...I know that my Redeemer lives... Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God; Whom I myself shall behold,..."* The hope of a Redeemer to come and a bodily resurrection.

23:10-12 - Trials purify those who cling to God *"When He has tried me, I will come forth as gold."*

26:7 - True science - *"He ...hangs the earth on nothing."*

**38-41** - God's dialogue with Job.

**42** - Job's repentance and restoration.

42:5-6 - *"I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; But now my eye sees Thee; therefore I retract, And I repent in dust and ashes."*

42:12-13 *"And the LORD blessed the later days of Job more than his beginning."*

## The Book of Job - Outline

### I. PROLOGUE 1-2 (Previous state & start of testing:)

#### A. Job's Character & Position (1:1-5)

#### B. Satan's First Assault (1:6-22)

##### 1. Satan Before the Lord (6-12)

##### 2. Satan's Assault (13-19)

###### a. Sabeen Attack (13-15)

###### b. Fire from Heaven (16)

###### c. Chaldean Attack (17)

###### d. Wind from the Wilderness (18-19)

##### 3. Job's Response (20-22)

#### C. Satan's Second Assault (2:1-10)

##### 1. Satan before the Lord (1-6)

##### 2. Satan's Assault (6-10)

###### a. The Boils (6-8)

###### b. Job's Wife (9-10)

#### D. Arrival of Job's Friends (2:11-13)

### II. DIALOGUES 3-41

#### A. Job's dialogues with "friends." (3-37)

##### 1. Job's Opening Lament (3) - Anguish & Despair

##### 2. Three Cycles with Three "Friends." (4-28)

###### a. First Cycle (4-14)

###### i. Eliphaz (4-5)

False assumption & basis (4:7; 5:6, 17)

Truth without comfort (5:17-27)

###### ii. Job's Response (6-7)

6:10 - Job's Confidence

6:21 - Eliphaz' fear

iii. Bildad (8)

False assumption (8:3-6)

Basis of assumption (8:8)

Truth without comfort (8:20-22)

iv. Job's Response (9-10)

Key question (9:2)

God is greater

9:17-18 Job's perspective

10:1f - Despair prompts complaints

v. Zophar (11)

False Assumption - 11:11-20

vi. Job's Response (12-14)

God's power (12:13-20)

Job's hope (13:15-16)

Job's plea (13:20)

Finality of Death (14:1-12)

Hope of Resurrection (14:13-15)

b. Second Cycle (15-21)

i. Eliphaz (15)

False accusation (15:13)

Basis of assumptions (15:17)

ii. Job's Response (16-17)

God's has shattered Job (16:6-17)

Job's continued trust in God (16:19)

iii. Bildad (18)  
False assumption (18:5,21)

iv. Job's Response (19)  
The extent of Job's trial (19:7-20)  
  
Job's plea for compassion (19:21-22)  
  
Hope for a written record (19:23-24)  
  
Hope for Resurrection and Trust in God (19:25-26)

v. Zophar (20)  
False assumption and basis (20:4-5, 29)

vi. Job's Response (21)  
Refutes Zophar's arguments

c. Third Cycle (22-

i. Eliphaz (22)  
False assumption results in false accusations (22:5-20)  
  
Platitudes wrongly applied (22:21-30)

ii. Job's Response (23-24)  
Job's longing for God - and confidence (23:2-10)  
  
Refutes Eliphaz' accusations (23:11-17)  
  
Refutes Eliphaz' assumptions (24:1-25)

iii. Bildad (25)  
Truth that provides no comfort

iv. Job's Response (26)  
God is great, powerful and mysterious (26:5-14)  
  
Earth hangs on nothing (26:7)  
  
The Earth is round (26:10)

v. Job's Further Response (27-28)

Job's affirmations (27)

God is over the Earth (28:1-11)

Man's limitations (28:12-22)

God's wisdom - to fear the Lord is wisdom (28:23-28)

3. Job's Closing Lament (29-31)

Job's past condition (29)

Job's present condition (30)

Job affirms his righteousness (31:1-34)

Job's plea and hope (31:35-40)

4. Elihu's Wisdom. (32-37)

Elihu's anger (32)

Elihu's plea for Job to hear and heed (33)

Elihu's premise (33:12)

God's righteousness and justice (34)

God does not do wickedness (10)

God is ruler of the universe (16-30)

Job is inconsistent (31-36)

Elihu refutes Job's complaint (35)

God's Benevolence - the source of hope (36:1-21)

God's justice revealed in Creation (36:22-37:13)

Elihu's admonition: fear God and wait on Him (37:14-24)

B. God's Dialogue with Job. (38-41) Job's limitations compared with God

Knowledge and Control at Creation (38:3-11)

Knowledge and Control of a day (38:12-15)

Knowledge and Control of the sea, death and the earth (38:16-18)

Knowledge and Control of day, night and weather (38:19-29)

Knowledge and Control of the stars (38:31-33)

Knowledge and Control of the rain (38:34-38)

Knowledge and Control of the animals (38:39-39:29)

Lions, ravens, mountain goats, deer, wild donkey, wild ox, ostriches, horse, hawk, eagle

Job Reproved (40:1-12)

Job's acknowledgment (40:3-5)

Job's error (40:6-8)

Job is not like God (40:9-14)

Knowledge and Control of Behemoth (40:15-24)

Knowledge and Control of Leviathan (41)

III. EPILOGUE 42

A. Job's repentance. (42:1-6)

B. Job's friends rebuked. (42:7-9)

C. Job's restoration. (42:10-17)

Double wealth (12)

Double children (13)

Long life (16-17)