



Review—Job 1–11

What has happened so far?

Highlights of Job's Speeches

What lessons have we learned?

What has happened so far?

- Satan destroyed all of Job's possessions, most of his servants, and all of his children—in one day! (1:13–19).
- Job responded in a remarkable way (1:20–22).
 - He mourned, but he also worshiped.
 - He continued to praise the Lord.
 - He did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

What has happened so far?

- Satan then struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head (2:7–8).
- His wife said, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!” (2:9).
- Job then said to her: “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” (2:10).

What has happened so far?

- Job's friends, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar, when they heard about his adversity, went to mourn with him and comfort him (2:11).
- “When they raised their eyes from afar, and did not recognize him, they...wept...each one tore his robe and sprinkled dust on his head toward heaven” (2:12).
- They sat with Job on the ground for seven days, in complete silence, “for they saw that his grief was very great” (2:13).

What has happened so far?

- Job broke the silence with a long lamentation, basically saying he wished he had never been born (ch. 3).
- Eliphaz answered Job (4–5), and Job responded (6–7). Bildad answered (8), and again Job responded (9–10). Zophar answered (11), and in next week’s lesson we will see Job’s response (12–14).
- And that will take us through the first “cycle” of speeches.

Job's Speeches

- He has expressed almost unbearable grief and anguish, mainly due to his perception that God is against him.
- He has expressed disappointment/dissatisfaction with the arguments of his friends.
- He has asked them to produce evidence of his sin.
- He would love the opportunity to plead his case before God, but sees some issues with that.

Lessons Learned

- Satan is a formidable adversary, searching high and low for any opportunity.
- And, he is persistent. When Job withstood the first onslaught, Satan had another go at him.
- BUT, he does have limits, being neither omniscient (all knowing) nor omnipotent (all powerful).
 - He thought he knew Job, but he really didn't.
 - God limited the extent to which Satan could go.

Lessons Learned

- Suffering presents a great opportunity to shut Satan up, to silence his accusations.
 - Job did; Peter did; Paul did...and so can we!
 - “For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may **put to silence** the ignorance of foolish men” (1 Peter 2:15).
 - “Sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, **having nothing evil to say of you**” (Titus 2:8).

Lessons Learned

- Going through the most awful time imaginable doesn't necessarily mean God is against us, that our suffering is punishment for sin.
- Yes, God rewards the righteous and punishes the wicked, but those rewards/punishments are not always evident in THIS life, at least not in our outward circumstances.
- God is worthy of our full allegiance, even if we never have another “good” day on this earth.

Lessons Learned

- The “prosperity preachers,” the health and wealth crowd, are DEAD WRONG.
- We MUST develop a deeper appreciation for the spiritual blessings He gives us. These blessings are CONSTANT, if we continue to live by faith.
- Job was right—a man pleading His case against God is an impossible situation. We do need a mediator between us and Him, someone to “lay his hand on us both” (9:33).

Lessons Learned

- “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the face of the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?” (1:8).
- Are there any on the earth TODAY like him? If so, am I one of them?
- Do we instruct many, do we strengthen weak hands and feeble knees, do we uphold those who are stumbling? (4:3–4).

Lessons Learned

- Dreams, visions, the wisdom and tradition of forefathers—none of these are a substitute for divine wisdom. “If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God” (1 Peter 4:11).
- “To him who is afflicted, kindness should be shown by his friend, even though he forsakes the fear of the Almighty” (6:14).
- When grief is heavy (6:2–3), when bitterness and anguish of spirit take over (7:11; 10:4), it’s easy to speak rashly (6:3).

Lessons Learned

- **Eliphaz:** God “does great things, and unsearchable, marvelous things without number” (5:8).
- **Job:** “God is wise in heart and mighty in strength...He does great things past finding out, yes, wonders without number” (9:4, 10).
- **Zophar:** “Can you search out the deep things of God...find out the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea” (11:7–9).