

The Devil's Devices (II)

Job was a real person [Ezk.14:14, 20]

Job lived in Uz (1) ... East (3)

Probably Edom (Lam.4:21)

Eliphaz was from Teman (2:11 – Edomite city)

Job lived in patriarchal period, probably about the time of Abraham

I. Job's Attributes, 1:1-4, etc.

1. Blameless, not perfect / sinless, but whole, upright
2. Upright, straight (not crooked, perverse. Jg.17:6.
3. Feared God (reverence, honor)
4. Turned away from evil, Prov.3:7
5. Family man, 2, 4-5 (concerned for them)
6. Rich, 3-4. Mk.10:23
7. Respected, 29:7-25 (popular judge, benefactor)

I. Job's Attributes, 1:1-4, etc.

II. Job's Adversary, 1:6-12

6: in heavenly context ('sons of God') – angels

7. as roaring lion, 1 Pt.5:8

8. God rubs Job into satan's wounds

- God boasts of Job, delights in obedience

9-11. satan, the cynic: admits Job's morals...
attacks his motives

- “For nothing” – “Job is a phony”
- Hedge (10) – Invisible fence [slanders God; and Job]
- Curse: lit., bless (euphemism) (5). 1 K.21

12. God is in control; satan has limited power.
Gn.3

I. Job's Attributes, 1:1-4, etc.

II. Job's Adversary, 1:6-12

III. Job's Afflictions, 1:13-2:13

What did Job lose?

- Children – guarded their spiritual welfare; sacrificed for them, 1:5-6, 18-19
- Wealth – on happy occasion, 1:13-19
- Health – formerly, hedge [*fence*, 1:10]
 - Now, Job's *flesh is attacked*, 2:4, 7, one big sore...
 - 2:8, isolated from people...goes to rubbish
 - Variety of symptoms: 7:3-5, 14; 19:20; 30:30

What did Job lose?

- Wife – 2:9-10
- Friends – 2:11-13
 - We value their trip, time, tears, target
 - They undo their good with false charges
 - 19:19, *all my close friends abhor me, and those I love have turned against me...*
- Reputation – 4:7; Jn.9:2. Lk.13
- Peace of mind – even God against him?
10:2

I. Job's Attributes, 1:1-4, etc.

II. Job's Adversary, 1:6-12

III. Job's Afflictions, 1:13-19

IV. Job's Approval

A. God did not immediately cure Job

- This did not turn Job against Him – he respected God’s timing. Patience
- Job would serve God even if He slew him – 13:15
- Job is salt in satan’s wounds. He serves God even in suffering

B. God honored and trusted Job

- Trusted Job to disprove satan's lies – 1:9, 20; 2:3
- Ja.1:2-4; 5:11

Job:

- Worship (1:20)
- Self-control (2:10)
- Teaches us how to respond in crisis

C. Job trusted God in prosperity AND adversity

- 42:3 – no explanation for his suffering, or need to justify God's ways with man
- Exalts deep faith in spite of unexplained suffering

C. Job trusted God in prosperity AND adversity

42:5 – now my eye sees You

- Job had to see himself first (6)
- 42:6 – spiritual maturity agonizes over sin
 - Idea of judging God is absurd
 - Job loves God more than ‘things’ – cf. Gn.22

D. God defended Job against false accusations

42:7-8 – now my eye sees You

(“my servant” – four times)

1 Pt.5:7, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you

- Christians boast in cross of Christ
- God boasts in His children
- These were not the last people who thought they were speaking for God

E. Satan, our adversary, wants to destroy us

- Lk.13:...16
- 2 Co.12:7-10

“Be thankful for the bad things in life, for they open your eyes to the good things you weren’t paying attention to before”

1. Real struggle in Job –

- Not Job and God
- But God and satan
- God uses Job to prove His case – a celestial battle fought on earth. Lk.4:13

2. God allowed Job to suffer...

- a. To counter satan's slanders
- b. To comfort other sufferers (Ja.5:11)
...thus defeating satan throughout time

3. Moses' law required...

- a. Double restoration for stealing (Ex.22:4). Cf. 42:12.
- b. Servants of God cannot lose. Satan's servants always lose.
- c. Twice as much includes children – v.13 (cf. 1:2)

4. Summary: God is worthy of trust and worship at all times, 1:20.

- a. God does not explain suffering; we must trust Him, 42:3
- b. To see God, we must first see ourselves, 42:5-6
- c. It is easier to see faults in others than in ourselves, 42:7-9
- d. It's not all bad. Somewhere, a Job is faithful despite suffering. 1 Co.10:13
- e. If we lose everything, but still have God, we are rich beyond measure. Ja.5:11

5. Job had waited for God to
explain his suffering.

- a. The same God would send His son to die for our sins
- b. “And God said No”