The Book of Job, chapters 1-2

Job's story is recorded for us so that we will have some help in living through sufferings —and not just keeping a stiff upper lip but bowing reverently and trustingly before the sovereign goodness of God.

<u>Central message</u>: <u>Continue to trust in a God who is good when everything seems so bad. Job is a man who trusts God for *who he is*, even though he does not know God's ultimate plan.</u>

Job's Character and Blessing (1:1-5)

Scene 1: The Lord's Council Chamber (1:6-12).

God is in control. Satan has to ask permission and what Satan does cannot go one inch beyond what God's permission has given him.

Scene 2 – Job's land (1:13-22).

'At this Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head [signs of intense grief and mourning]. Then he fell to the ground in worship and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." (1:21).

Scene 3 – the Lord's Council Chamber (2:1-7a):

<u>Scene 4 – Job's land (2:7b-10).</u>

Job says I will not give up my confidence in the sovereignty of God!

He did not sin, he did not charge God with wrong-doing, he said nothing against God (2:10).

1) God is sovereign over suffering: in a mysterious way which we cannot fathom, suffering does fall within his overruling power.

The Living God, the Lord, is the only supreme God. Nothing happens in the universe without his permission.

2) There is an element of mystery in all suffering.

Trust God in situations when we do not know why certain things are happening.

- 3) Satan's aim is to destroy our joy and faith in God.
- 4) Let us affirm with all our hearts the absolute sovereignty of God.

Psalm 115:3 - "Our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases."

Daniel 4:35 - He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. no one can hold back his hand or say to him: 'What have you done?'

Let us make the absolute sovereignty of God the rock on which we build our lives and our church.

- 5) Let us allow our tears flow freely when suffering comes. See Job 1:20; 3:1-11.
- 6) <u>Let us trust in the goodness of God, and let him be our treasure and our joy.</u> Psalm 63:3 - 'The steadfast love of the Lord is better than life."

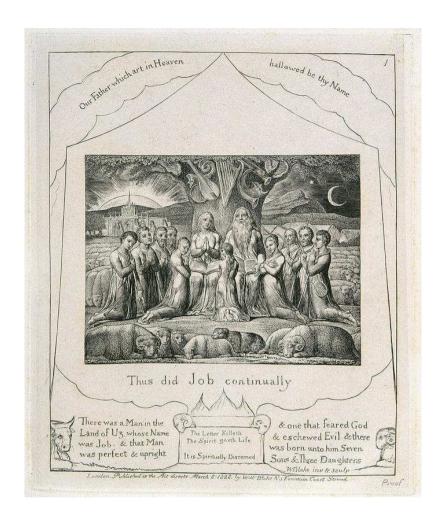
Watch cartoon on Job: https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/job/

Outline and structure of the book of Job

Part 1. Job and what happened to him	
Introducing Job What happened to Job	1:1–5 1:6 – 2:10
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Introducing Job's three friends Speeches by Job and his friends	2:11–13 3:1 – 27:23
Job's 1st lament (3)	
Ist cycle of speeches Eliphaz (4 – 5) Bildad (8) Zophar (11)	Job (6 – 7) Job (9 – 10) Job (12 – 14)
2nd cycle of speeches Eliphaz (15) Bildad (18) Zophar (20)	Job (16 – 17) Job (19) Job (21)
3rd cycle of speeches (interrupted) Eliphaz (22) Bildad (25)	Job (23 – 24) Job (26 – 27)
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Part 3. The answers to Job	*
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Conclusion

42:7-17



FACING THE TESTS OF LIFE

- 1. Thoughts on Life's Goals (1:1-5)
- 2. Endurance for Serious Troubles (1:6-2:13)
- 3. Search for Right Perspectives (3-37)
- 4. Time before a Holy God (38-42:9)
- 5. Satisfaction with Life's Reward (42:10-1