

"Now Mine Eyes Seeth Thee"

Lesson 2

Job's Character, Calamities, And Challenges To His Faith Job 1-2

Introduction

In the opening chapters of the book, we have the description of Job. The backdrop of his character and prosperity becomes the focal point of the ensuing discussion between Satan and God. From their own perspectives, they discuss Job's faithfulness and service to God.

The two main questions raised in the dialogues between Satan and God are: 1) Does man serve God unconditionally, or only because he is blessed materially? 2) What kind of God allows faithful servants to suffer and become "pawns" in the hand of Satan? These issues have both advanced atheism and baffled believers for years. Yet, a close study of this book provides the answer to both questions.

Job's Character (1:1-5)

1. Where was Job from? (v. 1) What else is known in the Scripture about this place? (cp. Gen. 10:23; 22:21; 36:28; Jer. 25:20; Lam. 4:21)
2. What virtues of Job's character are we given? (v. 1) Write down what you think each one means.
3. How was Job blessed? (vv. 2-3) What statement in v. 3 offers a good summary about him?
4. What information in vv. 4-5 do we have that describes Job's character in action? What is noteworthy about the emphasis at the end of v. 5?

Job's First Calamities & Challenge To His Faith (1:6-22)

5. What action is described in v. 6? What do you think Satan meant in his answer to the Lord's question in v. 7? (cp. 1 Pet. 5:8) What does God think of Job? (v. 8) What is Satan's first accusation against Job (and really, against God)? (vv. 9-10)

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6. What challenge does Satan issue to God regarding Job? (v. 11) In God's response, what do we learn about Satan's activities against man? (v. 12; cp. 1 Cor. 10:13) In what ways did Satan afflict Job? (vv. 13-19) How does Job respond to these calamities? (vv. 20-22) In all this, what was proven about Satan? (cp. Jn. 8:44)

Job's Second Calamity & Challenge To His Faith (2:1-13)

7. Of what does God remind Satan during their second discussion? (v. 3) How does Satan respond? (v. 4) What is Satan again implying about Job? What is Satan's challenge this time? (v. 5) What is God's response? (v. 6)
8. How was Job afflicted this time? (vv. 7-8; cp. also 2:12; 7:5,14; 16:16; 19:17,20; 30:17,30) Who proved to be a great disappointment to Job, and thus an instrument of Satan? (v. 9) Noticing this verse, as well as Mt. 10:32-39, what important lesson can we learn about temptation?
9. How did Job respond to his wife? (v. 10) How did he respond to this calamity? (v. 10) From these two incidents, what do we learn about Job's faith? What should we learn from this?
10. To whom are we introduced and why have they come? (v. 11) How did they react to all of Job's afflictions? (vv. 12-13) Compare their actions in v. 13 to what they do in the rest of the book. Which was of more value? Do you see a lesson for us?