

Job "A Profile in Faith!"

Keep the Faith, Don't Give Up, This is Only a Test!

Rev. Angela Ford Nelson, Pastor Good Hope Wesley Chapel UMC 406 Black River Road, Camden, SC

Beginning with the End in Mind: Themes in the Book of Job

- 1) The Unmovable Faith of Job
- 2) The Wrong Theology of Job's Friends
- 3) Bad Things Do Happen to GOOD People
- 4) God's CHESED Lovingkindness, Never Fails. How about our love for others?
- 5) The Enemy is the Accuser of the Brethren (The People of God) Revelation 12:10 17
- 6) God is God Almighty, the MAKER of Heaven and Earth
- 7) God will Give you Double for Your Trouble
- 8) Faith is an Inside Job! It may not be apparent to your friends, but it is to God!

- Chapter 1 Who is Job?
 - Lived in Uz (East of the Jordan River)
 - A man of complete integrity
 - Fearing God and staying away from evil
 - Richest man in the area
 - Livestock, servants
 - Father of 10 children!
 - 7 Sons, 3 daughters

Chapter 1 – Who is Job?

- A priest of his home
 - offering burnt offerings for his family
- Satan wanted to use Job
 - To prove to God that humanity only worships God because of what God does for us...
- God trusted His servant Job
- Job loses everything and everyone...
 - Yet He still trusts God!

- Chapter 2 3 What Next?
 - Satan strikes again With God's permission
 - Skin for Skin
 - Job loses his health
 - But he doesn't lose his faith!
 - His 3 friends: Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar come to comfort him
 - The real test begins when the silence breaks

Chapter 2 – 3 What Next?

- Job breaks the silence after 7 days and nights of sitting in sack cloth and ashes
 - What he feared had happened
 - He had no peace, no quietness, no rest, only trouble (Job 3:26)
- Job wishes he was never born or conceived.

- Chapter 4 5: Eliphaz Speaks
 - First round of 3 speeches by his friends (Lord give Job strength!)
 - Eliphaz believes
 - Old Testament Theology, wrongly applied to Job
 - Behavior merits judgement
 - "Do the innocent die" Job 4:7
 - Eliphaz purports
 - He has a word of prophesy (Job 4:12)

- Chapter 4 5: Eliphaz Speaks
 - Eliphaz uses the famous last words of a friend:
 - "If I were you!" (Job 5:8)
 - I'd go to God and present my case to him
 - Eliphaz believes that people in a right relationship with God won't have sorrows or trials (Job 5:17 – 27)
 - No famine, destruction, go to the grave at a ripe old age.
 - Eliphaz speaks for his friends
 - We have studied life and found all this to be true. (Job 5:27)

- Chapter 6 7: Job Speaks
 - Job is struggling
 - His friends haven't offered comfort (Job 6:21)
 - Job needs HESED not He-Said
 - He needs Holy Love from his friends
 - What he receives is criticism (Job 6:25)
 - Honest words can be painful, but what do your criticisms amount to?
 - Job cries out to God
 - Remember that my life is just a breath Lord (Job 7:7)

Chapter 8 - 9: Bildad Speaks

- Job's punishment is well deserved
 - "Your children must have sinned" Job 8:4
 - The godless seem like a lush plant growing in the sunshine Job 8:16
- God won't reject a person of integrity (Job 8:20)
 - But Job is a MAN OF INTEGRITY!
- Job responds
 - Who am I that I should take God to court (Job 9:3)

Chapter 10 – 11

- Job Pleads with God
 - Job is disgusted with his life
 - Job again questions his birth and his conception
 - Job reminds God that his life is short
 - Job asks God to leave him alone!

Zophar RESPONDS TO JOB...

- The most severe friend of the 3 waiting friends
- Naamathite An Edomite: People known for their wisdom

Job's Counselors

- Edomites: Wise Counselors
 - Eliphaz (The Eldest)
 - Bildad
 - Zophar (The Harshest)
 - "Aged, gray-haired, old men, much older than Job's father" Job 15:10
- There is safety in wise counsel
 - Proverbs 11:14; 24:6
 - Proverbs 15:22

Chapter 10 – 11 – WHO ARE YOU JOB

- Zophar's Claims
 - Job talks a lot, but he's not innocent (11:1 2): "Shouldn't someone answer this torrent of words?"
 - Job is mocking God (11:3)
 - Claims to speak for God!
 - God is punishing you far less than you deserve (11:6): "Listen! God is doubtless punishing you far less than you deserve."
 - Claims that Job is false and God knows it (11:11)
- Solution
 - If only you would prepare your heart and lift up your hands to him in prayer (Job 11:13)
 - Get rid of your sins, then...11:14 20

Chapter 12

- Job Speaks!
 - "You people really know everything don't you?" (Job 12:2)
 - But you're no better than I am!
 - Job defends himself
 - I am just an blameless man, yet my friends laugh at me (Job 12:4)
 - Ask the animals they the truth
 - Job knows God!
 - The life of every living thing is in God's hands (Job 12:10)
 - True wisdom and power are found in God! (Job 12:13)
 - See Job 12:13 25 for a beautiful litany from Job about God!

- Chapter 13 14
 - Job redirects the conversation
 - I've seen all of this with my own eyes...you are no better than me. (13:1-8)
 - You smear me with lies
 - Worthless quacks
 - You are defending God with lies
 - What will happen when God finds out what you are doing? (13:9)
 - You're gonna be IN TROUBLE (13:10)
 - God might kill me, yet I have no other hope (13:15)
 - I'm going to argue my case with him...

- Chapter 13 14
 - Job speaks with God
 - Me 2 things O' God (13:21 22)
 - Remove your heavy hand from me
 - Summon me and I will answer
 - Job goes forth anyway...
 - With his own defense
 - Why do you turn away from me?
 - Why do you treat me this way like your enemy?

- Chapter 13 14
 - Job speaks with God (see also Psalm 90)
 - Humanity is frail
 - "How short is life, how full of trouble!" (14:1)
 - Let us alone and let us rest (14:6)
 - Job is wrong...
 - "People are laid to rest and don't rise again (14:12)
 - Can the dead live again (14:14)

- Chapters 15 21 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)
 - Eliphaz speaks against Job (AGAIN!)
 - You're nothing but a windbag (15:1)
 - Your words are based on deception (15:5)
 - We've got wisdom on our side (aged, gray-haired men much older than your father (15:10)
 - Can anyone born of a woman be just? (15:14)
 - Compares Job to the wicked (15:27 35)
 - The godless are barren

- Chapters 16 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)
 - Job responds!
 - His friends are repeating themselves!
 - 16:5 Job's heart is revealed again
 - If I were in your place, I'd encourage you, I would try to take away your grief.
 - Job cries out
 - You've devasted my family (16:7)
 - You've reduced me down to skin and bones (16:8)
 - Job's pride is lying in the dust (16:15)
 - Yet, he has done no wrong and his prayer is pure (16:17)
 - Job believes that his sickness will lead to his death (16:22)

Chapters 17 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)

- Job continues to respond
 - I am surrounded by mockers (17:2)
 - No one will stand up for him
 - Job feels that God has made a mockery of him; people laugh and sneer at him; they spit in his face (17:6)
 - The grave my father, the maggots my mother or sister (17:14)
 - Where is my hope? Can anyone find it? (17:15)

- Chapters 18 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)
 - Bildad Responds (again)
 - Do you think we are stupid?
 - Bildad is speaking to Job, but speaking of people like Job who have lost it all
 - The wicked will suffer (18:5 19)
 - Walk into a net
 - Fall into a pit
 - Grabbed by the heel by traps
 - Disease eats their skin
 - Torn from their homes
 - Homes burned down
 - No children or grandchildren

- Chapters 19 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)
 - Job Responds again...
 - How long will you torture me? (19:2)
 - You should be ashamed for treating me so badly (19:3)
 - Job believes that God has wrong him (19:6)
 - His relatives stay far away, and his friends have forgotten him (19:14)
 - His breath is repulsive to his own wife (19:17)
 - BUT AS FOR ME, I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES! AND HE WILL STAND UPON THE EARTH AT LAST! And after my body is decayed, I will see God. (19:26)
 - Job believes that his friends will be judged for bearing false witness (19:29)

- Chapters 20 21 (The 2nd Round of Speeches)
 - Zophar speaks again:
 - The triumph of the wicked will be short lived (20:5)
 - Their treasures will be thrown into the deepest darkness and the heavens will reveal their guilt (20:26 27)
 - A flood will sweep away their house (20:28)
 - Job responds again:
 - My complaint is with God, not with people!
 - I have good reason to be impatient (21:4)
 - Why do the wicked prosper (21:7)
 - They think their prosperity is their own doing but Job will have not part of that (21:16)
 - How can your empty cliché's comfort me (21:34)

- Chapter 22 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Eliphaz speaks again:
 - Is there any advantage to the Almighty if you are righteous? (22:3)
 - Is it because you are so pious that he accuses you? (22:4)
 - No, it's because of your wickedness! There's no limit to your sins. (22:5)
 - You must have (22:7 9): lent money and demanded clothing as security, refused water for the thirsty, food for the hungry, sent widows away empty handed
 - The righteous shall be happy to see the wicked destroyed. (22:19)

- Chapter 22 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Here's what you need to do (22:21 30)
 - Submit to God
 - Listen to His instructions
 - Return to the Almighty
 - Clean up your life!
 - Give up your lust for money
 - You will succeed in whatever you choose to do and light will shine on the road ahead of you. (22:28)

- Chapter 23 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Job RESPONDS!
 - If only I knew where to find God (23:3)
 - East, West, North, South can't find him, hidden, concealed
 - God would give me a fair hearing (23:6)
 - BUT GOD KNOWS WHERE I AM GOING! (23:10)
 - And when HE TESTS ME, I will come out as pure Gold
 - For I have stayed on God's paths;
 - I have followed His ways and not turned aside

- Chapter 24 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Job asks WHY?
 - Why doesn't the Almighty bring the wicked to judgment? (24:1)
 - They steal land and livestock
 - Take advantage of the orphan
 - The demand the widow's ox as security for a loan
 - Poor are abused
 - No food, no clothing

- Chapter 25 26 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Bildad Speaks
 - Can anyone born of a woman be pure (25:3)
 - In comparison to God, people are maggots, mere worms (25:6)
 - Job Responds
 - You aren't helping me
 - Where did you get all of this stuff "Whose spirit speaks through you?" (26:4)
 - Who can comprehend God, the MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH?

- Chapter 27 31 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Job's FINAL SPEECHES
 - Job no longer responds to his friends
 - Job makes a vow by the living God
 - The ONE WHO HAD TAKEN AWAY HIS RIGHTS
 - He won't concede to wrong doing
 - He will defend his integrity until he dies
 - Job believes that the TRUE WICKED WILL BE PUNISHED (27:13 23)

- Chapter 27 31 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - Chapter 28
 - People can dig iron from the earth, but they can't FIND WISDOM! Wisdom comes from God alone! And nothing can be exchanged for it!
 - The Fear of the Lord is TRUE WISDOM; to forsake evil is true understanding (28:28)
 - Chapter 29
 - Job longs for the years gone by
 - When God's friendship was felt in his home, when his children were around him, honored among the leaders, praised, spoken well of, I helped people, father to the poor
 - I thought I'd die a after a long good life with my family surrounding me
 - I was a like a chief telling others what to do. I lived like a king (29:25)

- Chapter 30 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - BUT NOW:
 - Mocked by the young and the least honorable
 - Mocked with vulgar songs
 - Taunted
 - They come at me in all directions NO ONE IS THERE TO HELP ME (30:13)
 - God has humbled me.
 - My heart is troubled and restless (30:27)

- Chapter 31 (The 3rd Round of Speeches)
 - JOB RESTS HIS CASE
 - Job declares that he has obeyed the COMMANDMENTS
 - No lust for another's wife
 - Not unfair to servants
 - Not refused to help the poor
 - Helped the homeless, the orphan, the widows, have not gloated, have not worshipped idols, have not cursed anyone, have not hid my sins
 - Let the accuser write out the charges against me (31:35)

- Chapter 32 ELIHU SHOWS UP!
 - A younger 'friend' has been eavesdropping on the conversation!
 - When the 3 other friend stop talking, ELIHU STARTS TALKING
 - ELIHU is angry:
 - because Job won't admit that he has sinned against God.
 - Because the 3 other friends have made God appear to be wrong because they couldn't answer JOB'S ARGUMENTS
 - "Sometimes the elders aren't wise" (32:9)

- Chapter 33 ELIHU SHOWS UP!
 - Listen to me!
 - Make your case Job (33:5)
 - Don't be afraid of me Job
 - Job's complaint is that God won't respond
 - Elihu says that God speaks again and again (33:14)
 - Dreams, visions, in deep sleep
 - God protects, God disciplines
 - Just pray and God will accept you and receive you with joy

- Chapter 34 37 ELIHU SHOWS UP!
 - God pays back people according to their sins (34:11)
 - God can do no wrong!
 - God is not answerable to anyone (34:13)
 - God won't tailor justice!
 - God will get your attention and command that you turn from evil (36:10)
 - Stop and consider the wonderful miracles of God (37:14)

- Chapter 38 41 GOD SPEAKS!
 - Then God answered Job from the whirlwind (38:1)
 - Who is this who questions my wisdom with such ignorant words? Brace yourself like a man, because I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.
 - Where were you
 - Laid the foundations of the earth
 - Determined the dimensions
 - Who kept the sea inside of its boundaries
 - Did you make daylight spread to the ends of the earth
 - Who sends the rain to satisfy parched ground
 - Can you direct the movement of the stars
 - Do you know when the wild goats give birth?

- Chapter 38 41 GOD SPEAKS!
 - Then God answered Job from the whirlwind (40:6)
 - Do you still want to argue with the Almighty (40:2)
 - Are you as strong as God
 - Behemoth (40:15)
 - Leviathan (41:1)
 - They can't be tamed

- Chapter 42 Job speaks and the Lord issues His verdict
 - I know that you can do anything
 - I was talking about things I knew nothing about
 - Things to wonderful for me
 - I had only heard of you before
 - Now I have seen you with me own eyes
 - God said to Eliphaz (the older friend)
 - I am angry with you and your two friends for you have spoken inaccurately about me
 - Job spoke accurately!

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