

# **The Book of Job**

## **Lesson 2 – Chapter 1**

- 1) Where did Job live?
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) When did Job live?
  - a) According to Job 42:16, Job lived \_\_\_\_\_ years after his sufferings. What is a reasonable age for Job to have been when his sufferings began? \_\_\_\_ Terah (Abraham's father) lived 205 years; Abraham 175 years; Jacob 180 years.
  - b) However, in Job 20:24, \_\_\_\_\_ weapons are mentioned and in Job 28:2, \_\_\_\_\_ is mentioned. This might place Job in the Iron age or in \_\_\_\_\_ time.
- 3) What more do we learn about Job in verses 6-12?
- 4) What do we learn about Satan in verses 6-12?
- 5) In verses 9 through 11, what is Satan basically saying about God? What is he saying about human beings?
  - What, then, is the fundamental reason for Job's suffering?
- 6) Does Job know what God says in verse 12?
- 7) What happens to Job in verses 13 through 22 and what is his response?
- 8) How would you respond to someone who charges that religion is only for those who can't make it on their own?
- 9) Four principles that remain true to this day:
  - a) There is an \_\_\_\_\_ we encounter that we cannot \_\_\_\_\_, but he is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) There are \_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_ we do not deserve, but they are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) There is a plan we explore we will not understand, but it is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) There are consequences we experience, we could not anticipate, but they are \_\_\_\_\_.

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## Lesson 1 – Overview

What do you think of when you think of Job?

Some opening thoughts:

- a) God wants us to love Him for who He is, not for what He does for us. (Job 1:11)
- b) Life is not just difficult (John 16:33); Life is not fair. (Job 1-42)

Was Job a real person?

- a) Some say the book has the marks of an allegory. But,
  - 1) Chapters 1, 2 and 42b have all the marks of being simple, historical records.
  - 2) In Ezekiel 14:14, 16 & 20, Job is as real as Noah and Daniel.
  - 3) In James 5:11, the mercies of God are bestowed on a real man.
  - 4) The details of names and places are not such as would occur in an allegory.
- b) Some hold that the interaction between Satan and God is improbable, so Job *must* be allegorical. But,
  - 1) Even if the interaction between God and Satan did not literally happen, this does not prove that no such man as Job existed.
  - 2) That this interaction did not happen is impossible to prove.
  - 3) See Luke 22:31, where Satan has asked to sift Simon like wheat.
- c) Some hold that the behavior of Job's friends seems improbable, so it must be an illustration. But,
  - 1) The discussion could actually have occurred but was written in more poetic form afterwards.
  - 2) The whole problem goes away if you realize that no timeline is given for Job's sufferings.

What do we learn about Job in verses 1-5?

He was a man; historical figure; lived in Uz; man of prayer; blameless; feared God; religious; shunned evil; wealthy; very wealthy; family grown; kids married and doing well; empty nester; life at its zenith; 10 kids got along; in touch with his family; concerned for them.